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An Account of VIRTUE: Or, Dr. *Henry More's* ABRIDGMENT of MORALS, Put into Englisth.

Cicero Tusc. Quæst.

O vitæ Philosophia Dux! O Virtutum Indagatrix, Expultrixq; Vitiorum; Unus Dies benè, & ex Preceptis tuis, actus, peccanti Immortalitati est anteponendus.

LONDON,
Printed for *Benj. Tooke*,
M DC XC.

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EXTRACT
OF
Dr. *More*'s EPISTLE
TO HIS
READER.

Setting forth,

THAT he was with difficulty perſuaded by his Friends to a Work of this Nature; as having firſt a very mean Opinion of thoſe Syſtems for Moral Philoſophy, which pretend to overthrow Iniquity by *Definitions* and *Diviſions*. He thought it was *Virtue* alone was fit to enter the Liſt; and ſuch Virtue as could no where be found, but by Faith in God, and a Reverence to his Holy Scriptures. That in them the Senſe and Meaning was wholly

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Divine, and that he who so believed, and did not willingly abuse his knowledg therein; would come easily to discern, what in all things was the *Good*, and what the *Evil*. But that if a Man had no such feeling, and knew not how to put himself under the Discipline of Self-denial, let him be never so vers'd in Definitions and distributions of Virtue, he ever would be destitute both of Virtue it self, and of all the Fruits and Consequences of it. Here the Doctor laments to see the World so abound with Monsters, who even deride this Blessing of Virtue, and upon all occasions expose it for a mere Imaginary Thing.

That his Friends, even from these Motives and Obstructions, increased their Importunity; Urging on him the greater need of such a Work, as might not only bear down Opposition by some new Advantage in the Method,

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Method, but in carrying Proofs for every Precept, and Conviction for every Rule. They plainly shew'd, That the Age was grown so captious, that nothing would pass, or look binding on the Mind of Man, but what Right Reason did irresistibly compel him unto. That therefore, if a Treatise of this happy Texture might be obtain'd, it would not only gratifie the Good, but perhaps even kindle and ingender some Divine Sparks towards Virtue in the Bad.

However, and notwithstanding all these Instigations, he at first utterly Dissented, as being then plung'd in Studies of a different kind, which did not only entertain, but even ravish his Mind with Delight. Yet having but for one Night revolved the Arguments laid before him, and comparing in his Thoughts the difference between Self-Content, and the Hopes

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of a Publick Good; (such was the Instability of Human resolution) he even started from the Work he had in hand, and purpos'd with Ardor to pursue the New. Indeed the hints of Conscience, and the Preference due to a higher Good, grew so much upon him; that the more he had inclin'd to the first Work, and shewn Averseness to this latter; the more he resolv'd to conquer himself in both; and to make herein some Experiment of his own Sincerity.

He owns he had this farther provocation, that having long ago employ'd his Talent, in demonstrating, from the foundations of Natural Theology, *that there was a God;* and that the *Soul of Man was Immortal*; he thought it not incongruous to add now some third Treatise concerning *Life and good Manners*; such as might lead Men on to the knowledg, and to the fruition of the rest. Here-

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Hereupon he says, that as soon as the Scheme and Platform of his Work was but settled in his Thoughts (which was very soon done) he then bent his whole Mind to it, and pursu'd it with one continu'd Heat, till it was all accomplish'd.

The Doctor then sets forth, how the true Design of all, who write of Morals, is, or ought to be, for amendment of Life. That it was not to Cavil or to Dispute, or make ostentation of Science; but that the Work in Hand, was an honest Intention to excite the Minds of Men unto Virtue. And that by Reading and Meditating on the Precepts thereof, every Man might pursue and attain such Blessing, and compleat his Felicity by it. That this was the whole Scope and the true Motive, of this Manual. But if, in the handling thereof, he had not trod in the path which others

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had taken; he had Hopes however, when the whole Mould and Spirit of it was consider'd, it might not displease the Reader. For as to point of Order, he had always put that in the first place, which was most clear, and that behind which was more obscure; This being the utmost aim of what all good Method pretends unto. He does acknowledg to have left out (since Prudence did so advise it) a great heap of Rules and Admonitions which others talk of. But having selected those of most Concern, as comprehending in them the Life and Power of the rest; and having even dived for this purpose into the intimate Recesses of his own Soul and Experience, to furnish those, which might most inflame or conjure Men unto Virtue; He hopes this will not pass for less, than had he barely transcrib'd from Books, and from the Authori-

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thorities that went before him.

However he owns, that as to one Branch herein, he had chiefly conformed to what *Des-Cartes* in his *Definitions* of the *Passions* had done before him; which yet being but a matter of mere Speculation, is therefore subject to the less Exceptions.

And altho, as to the rest, his chief intention was, To pour forth the Sense and Emanations of his own Mind upon this Subject; Yet that he very often, and most respectfully, had concurr'd with many of the Ancients: And had even produc'd their very Words and Sentences, that it might the more appear, how by comparing and fortifying them with his own, he had not so much affected Singularity in this Undertaking, as a restitution of Morals to their pristin State.

But if, after all, he shall be censur'd

ſur'd as over-doing this Matter in too Numerous a Citation of ſuch Ancient Authors; he freely owns that herein alſo, he did purpoſely meditate how to expoſe, to the Eyes of the Chriſtian World, What a holy and ſanctifi'd ſenſe of Virtue even the Heathens had; and how, in their frequent Writings, they had ſo Divinely expreſs'd it, That we Chriſtians might be aſhamed to conſider, how few of us either Live ſo well, or Speak ſo wiſely as they did. For (alas) we of this Age, ſcorn to be ſubject, either to the Name or Exerciſe of Virtue! We diſown and vilifie it, as fit only for the more barbarous and unpolliſhed Nations of the World, ſuch as are not enlightned, and whom we think deſpicably of; while in this very preſumption we do not ſo much undervalue their Ignorance, as we diſcover our own. What Rational Creature is there,

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there, but must acknowledg, That Virtue has a participation with the Divine Nature? And what else could make it, as it is, so great a part of our Christian Religion? For howbeit those three Names, which among Men so often occur, of *Virtue*, *Grace*, and *the Divine Life*, may seem distinct; Yet, if *rightly* ponder'd, they are all but one and the same Thing. For to affirm that the Perfection of Man's Mind makes up the Divine Life, inasmuch as the Image of God is represented in it; This surely is no slight Notion of Virtue, but rather a strong and comprehensive Representation thereof. The same we might say of Grace also, as it is God's Munificence towards Man; and of Virtue no less, *as it is a powerful Faculty of the Soul, whereby the Passions are so subdu'd, as in every Case to be able to prosecute that which is the most perfect*

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perfect Good. This is the Definition, the Dr. hath chosen to bestow on Virtue in his following Tract; Designing thereby to rebuke the folly of those Men, who think they can live a Divine Life, without tying themselves up to the Rules of Morality; and who lay aside Virtue, while they fanatically pretend unto Grace.

Advertisement.

IF among many other Faults in this Translation, the Reader finds it not always strict to the *Latin*; It was hard, where the Quotations were Numerous, and in such different Styles, to keep to that Rule, but at the hazard of a much better; Namely, That every Translation should look like an Original. Which is somewhat attempted in this Essay.

K. W. Septemb. 1688.

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ERRATA.

PAge 104. line 13. read *from matters of.* p. 107. l. 17. r. *as not to be.* p. 110. l. 3. dele *which.* p. 118. l. 30. r. *is herein.* p. 132. l. 5. r. *with being.* p. 133. l. 22. r. *inferiour Creatures.* p. 151. l. 6. r. *chooser.* p. 157. l. 17. r. *to this.* p. 179. l. 11. r. *of acting.* p. 215. l. 16. r. *hath been.* p. 218. l. 8. r. *drives him.*

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AN ACCOUNT OF VIRTUE.

CHAP. I.

What Ethicks or Morals are.

ETHICKS *are defined to be the Art of Living well and happily.*

I. WE underſtand in this place, by *Art*, a methodical Knowledge of ſuch Precepts as are conſentaneous one to another. And therefore, ſince *Ethicks* are that *Art* we deſign to treat of, our Precepts muſt all partake thereof, and all conduce thereunto; for elſe they would not be *conſentaneous*. So that you are not to expect Precepts how to *diſpute*, but how to live, and how to be *happy*.

The Reaſon why in the Definition above we call it, *The Art of Living both well and happily*,

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pily, is, becauſe a Man may live *well*, and yet not altogether ſo *happily*; which two differing kinds of Life the *Pythagoreans* did rightly diſtinguiſh; for by their Doctrin, it is one thing to be *perfect according to Nature*, another *according to Life*.

II. Now ſuch men, *are by nature perfect*, who are adorned with Virtue. For, by the Definition of thoſe Philoſophers, *Virtue is the top and perfection of every Nature*. They term theſe men *good only*, and not happy or bleſt. *But ſuch men are ſaid to be perfect according to life, who are not only good, but alſo happy*. For they define *happineſs* to be the Perfection of human Life; and they define human life to be a Collection or *Chronicle of human Actions*. Wherefore, ſeeing the Event and Succeſs of ſuch Actions depend on Fortune, no man can, without the Benefits of Fortune, enjoy a perfect State. The wiſe *Hippodamus Thurius* obſerved, *That it was Virtue and Fortune together that made Actions perfect*; *Virtue as to the Practice, and Fortune as to the Succeſs*.

III. The Definition of *Felicity* given by *Archytas*, is conſonant to what we have ſaid, namely, *That it was the practice of Virtue joyned with good Fortune*. And laſt of all, *Euthephemus* hath well illuſtrated the matter in this threefold Similitude: *Juſt as a General* (ſaith he) *overcomes by Valour and good Succeſs*; *and as the Pilot gains his Port by true ſteering, and a favourable Gale*; *and as the Eye beholds by the Power of Viſion*,

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Vision, and Help of Light: so is our Life then best, when accompanied with Virtue and good Fortune. We might add unto all, the Authority of *Aristotle* himself, who requires *external Goods* to the completing of Happiness. Now altho the good Things of Fortune, which we here recommend, cannot absolutely be said to be within our Power; yet we presume to say, that forasmuch as the Precepts, laid down by *Ethicks*, do admirably steer a man to their acquisition (as in due place it will appear) we must conclude, that such Externals are by good title referrable to *Ethicks*. For altho they are sometimes missed of, and not always attained: yet this is only as it happens with *Physicians* and *Pilots*; who, tho they often miscarry, yet no man infers from thence, but that there are such *Arts* in the World, as *Physick* and *Navigation* too.

Vide in this Book, *L.* 3. *c.* 10. § 13.

Chap. II.

Of the Parts of Ethicks, and of Happiness.

I. Ethicks are divided into two Parts, *The Knowledge of Happiness, and the Acquisition of it.* The *Knowledge* contains the Doctrine of its Nature, and of such things as the Nature of Happiness does, in some sort, either comprehend, or else refer unto. Whence

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in this first Part we shall principally treat of the *Virtues*, and of the *Passions*: and in the last Part add somewhat about the *external Supports* of life.

II. HAPPINESS *is that pleasure which the mind takes in from a Sense of Virtue, and a Conscience of Well-doing; and of conforming in all things to the Rules of both.* Wherefore we say, that *external Comforts*, or some moderate proportion of them, do much conduce to the making happiness complete. Here we call *Happiness* a *Pleasure* of the Mind rather than an *Operation* of it, since all men allow it to be the *best and greatest of human Fruitions.* But as that cannot be the greatest which is subservient to another, so the *Operation* of the mind cannot be said to be its *greatest good*, since it is but in order to *Pleasure.* And it is upon this Account, as *Aristotle* observes, that we often heighten and raise our *Operations*; not that we are pleased with the Operation it self, but because we expect a pleasure from it, which we highly value, and which we look upon as an effect thereof.

Ethic. Eud. lib. 1. cap. 7.

III. FURTHERMORE, to come closer to the Mark, this *Pleasure* by which we define *Happiness*, is here considered as the Flower and Master-piece of that very Operation, in the ways of Virtue, which makes up the Excellency of Life. For, in every Action we go about, it is Pleasure that makes the Operation complete; it is as the Soul of the Work which cannot be wanting. And so *Aristotle* says, *That*

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That it gives Perfection to all our Works, and even to Life it self. *Eth. Nic lib. 10. c. 4*

It is plain, that each Creature hath its own particular Pleasure, which is construed to be its supreme Happiness. Whence we may infer, That human Happiness does also consist in human Pleasure; but such, I mean, as ariseth from the Sense of Virtue.

IV. Next we say, that all sorts of Men, not the Fools only, but the Philosophers, have placed *Happiness* in *Pleasure*. *Aristotle* hath noted in the following Words: *That all People accounted Happiness to be a Pleasure, and desired to live therein, or at least not without it.* And again elsewhere he says: *That no man can rationally think, but he that is truly happy lives very pleasantly.* And again in his Rhetorick: *That Happiness is that way of Life which is most pleasant with Security.* So even our own Divines are wont to describe the Celestial Happiness, by an uninterrupted Joy. *Magn. Moral l. 2. c. 7.* *Eud. l. 7. c. 5.* *Rhet. l. 1. c. 15.*

V. In the fifth place it appears, by *Aristotle*'s own Definition of *Pleasure*, that *Happiness* is of the same Affinity. For he defines Pleasure to be, *A Restitution of every Creature from a state imperfect, or preternatural, unto its own proper Nature.* Now a true Feeling and Possession of Virtue, is also the conversion or bringing a man about, from what is contrary to his Nature, to that which is conformable to it. For tho all Depravity be, according to *Trismegistus*, inbred, and con- *Magn. Moral. l. 2. c. 7.*

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Marcus Imperator, lib. 7. cap. 11.

natural to Brutes, yet in Reality the ſame is quite contrary to human Nature. *For* (as the Emperor *Marcus Aurelius* obſerves) *to act according to Nature or according to Reaſon, is in a rational Creature the ſame thing.* Wherefore all pravity is repugnant to human Nature. But that Virtue is natural to human Nature, and born as a Twin therewith, is manifeſt, as well becauſe Man's Soul is a rational Being, as becauſe Righteouſneſs or perfect Virtue (as we are told *by Divine Revelation*) is immortal; and that it was Sin only that brought Death into the World. For ſince the State of Innocence was to have been eternal, this plainly ſhews, that ſuch a ſtate was moſt perfect and moſt natural. And therefore that Reſtitution unto ſuch a State muſt be the moſt intrinſick and peculiar Pleaſure.

V. LASTLY, it muſt be agreed, that the Deſires of the Soul fly not to their Object, as it is intelligible, but as it is good or congruous, or grateful, or at leaſt tending to theſe ends; and ſo filling the mind with all the Joys and Pleaſure it can comprehend. Hence it is plain, that ſupreme Happineſs is not barely to be placed in the Intellect; but her proper Seat muſt be called the *Boniform Faculty of the Soul*: namely, a Faculty of that divine Compoſition, and ſupernatural Texture, as enables us to diſtinguiſh not only what is ſimply and abſolutely the beſt, but to reliſh it, and to have pleaſure in that alone. Which Faculty much reſembles that part of the Will which

Vide in this Book, *L.* 3 *c.* 9. § 14, 15, 16.

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which moves towards that which we judge to be absolutely the best, when, as it were with an unquenchable thirst and affection it is hurried on towards so pleasing an Object; and being in possession of it, is swallowed up in satisfaction that cannot be exprest.

VI. He therefore who acts according to this Faculty, conforms to *the best and divinest thing that is in us.* And this, as *Aristotle* notes, is necessary unto Happiness. *For whether (saith he) it be the very mind of man, or something else that, according to Nature, seems to govern and preside within us, as having knowledge of what is most Lovely and Divine; or whether it be God himself that immediately operates; or else those Gifts which we derive from above: this is plain, that such inward Working and Conformity to Virtue's Law, is that which denominates true Happiness.* Here the Philosopher seems doubtful whether it be the *Intellect*, or any other Faculty (which yet bears Impression of things *lovely* and *divine*) in whose Operation true Happiness does consist. Yet afterwards he takes part with the *Intellect*, and placeth Happiness in Contemplation. But we presume to say, this can be no *moral* Happiness; since it would be confined to a few speculative Men and Philosophers, and so shut out the Bulk of Mankind, who could never be partakers thereof. *Ethic. Nicom. l. 10 c. 7.*

VII. Wherefore, we think, Happiness should be seated rather in that *Boniform Faculty* we

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have ſpoke of; ſince it is the moſt elevated and moſt divine Faculty of the Soul, and ſeems to ſupply the ſame place in it, as the eſſential Good of the *Platonicks*, is ſaid to do in the Deity. As alſo becauſe the Study and Improvement of it is common to all men. For it is not above the Talent of the meaneſt, to love God, and his Neigbour very heartily. And, if this be done with Prudence and Purity of Life, it is the Completion of this Happineſs, and the very natural Fruit of this *exalted Faculty*.

And let no man think meanly thereof, ſince we are free to aver, that nothing of greater Benediction can betide us, either in the preſent, or in the future life, than ſuch a teſtimony of the *Divine Love*. But we ſhall elſewhere ſpeak more freely thereof.

VIII. We do therefore mention in our Definition of Happineſs, *the pleaſure which the mind enjoys from a ſenſe of Virtue*; becauſe there are ſome kinds of allowable pleaſure, ſuch as *Ariſtotle* calls *pure* and *generous*, and laughs at thoſe who think otherwiſe. *For ſuch* (ſays he) *as will not allow that any Pleaſure can be honeſt, are like thoſe Companions, who, not comprehending what Nectar is, do fanſie that the Gods drink Wine; inaſmuch as they themſelves know nothing better.*

Nicom. lib. 10. *c.* 6. *Magn. Moral. lib.* 2. *c.* 7.

IX. Now I affirm this pleaſure to ariſe from a *Senſe of Virtue*; and it is erroneous to think the Fruit of Virtue ſhould conſiſt in ſuch imaginary

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ginary knowledge as is gotten by bare Definitions of Virtue: for this amounts to no more, than if a man would pretend to know the Nature of Fire from the bare Picture of Fire, which can afford no Heat. All kind of Vital Goods (as I may take the liberty to call them) are by our Life and Senses to be judged of, and enjoyed. And Virtue is in it self an inward life, not an outward shape, or to be discovered by the Eye. According to that memorable Saying of *Plotinus: If you ever were the thing it self, you may then be said to have seen it.* But being once transformed into this life of Virtue, then indeed you behold the Beauties, and taste the Pleasures thereof; then you grow enamoured, and your Soul is taken up with Joys that cannot be uttered. However till you shall attain this State, and while this *Blessed Disposition of the Soul* is not as yet awakened in you, 'tis fit you credit those who are in the Fruition of it. Nor can that Saying of *Aristotle* be ever more opportunely urged than in this Case, *That Learners must believe.* For should you venture to make judgment of the Pleasure that is in Virtue, being as yet void of all Experience, it were to be feared, you would prosecute it so faintly, as never to obtain it, but be left to expiate your incredulity in this Life, by a too lasting punishment in the other.

Vide in this Book, *L.* 2. *c.* 2. § 5. *&* *c.* 3. § 1.

X. As to the preceding Words that are annexed to the Definition of Happiness: Namely, *That it was made perfect by external Comforts:*

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Comforts: How could this otherwise be? For since *Happiness* consists in that *Pleasure*, which good men take in the Sense of Virtue, and a Conscience of Well-doing; no man can possess this *Happiness*, if any pain be so intense upon him, as to distract the Mind, and extinguish all present Sense of Pleasure. Whence it plainly follows, that we must not lie under acute Diseases, or want the Food that is needful. For the want of a Sufficiency for Nature; or a State of Captivity; or any Degree of Vassalage; are able to depress, as well as distract, the Mind by Cares and Anxiety. They hinder Happiness from being in its Perfection, nor can Heroical Virtue produce so full a Crop.

Haud facilè emergunt, quorum virtutibus obstat
Res angusta domi ——— ———

Magn. Moral. lib. 2. c. 8.

XI. WHEREFORE (as *Aristotle* saith) while we are Men, and carry about us the Frailties we are born to, we shall ever be wanting of *external Prosperity*. For complete Happiness cannot be without those two Ingredients, which the *Pythagoreans* termed *Praise* and *Comfort*; meaning *Praise that results from Virtue, and Comfort from good Fortune*. This we sufficiently noted before to be the *Pythagoreans* Doctrine. And *Aristotle*, in his great Morals, strikes again upon the same Note; affirming, *That without external Comforts, it was impossible to be happy.*

Moral. Nicom. lib. 10. c. 9.

Magn. Moral.

12. How-

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XII. HOWEVER he inclines much to a *Mediocrity* herein, and quotes *Solon* for it: *That a Man may do all things that are fit for him, out of a moderate Estate.* For as to *Excess of Wealth*, it rather choaks up the Way to Virtue, than mends the Path. *Archytas* compares Wealth unto *Wine*, and to *Light*; saying, that one blinded the *Eyes*, and the other turned the *Brains*, of very good Men, when they were in excess. Whence *Aristotle*, when he interprets the Answer of *Anaxagoras*, does not make his happy Man to be either a Potentate, or a Man of overgrown Riches; *But the Man that was full of Innocence, free from Pain, and who had some share of Divine Contemplation.* This was his happy Man. *Moral. Eudem. lib. 1. c. 4.*

CHAP. III.

Of Virtue in general: and of Right Reason.

I. VIRTUE *is an intellectual Power of the Soul, by which it over-rules the animal Impressions or bodily Passions; so as in every Action it easily pursues what is absolutely and simply the best.*

Here it seems fit, in the Definition, to call Virtue rather a *Power* than a *Habit*. First, because the word *Virtue* implies as much, and signifies the same thing as Fortitude. And next *L. 3. c. 1. § 3.*

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next because an *Habit* is not essential to Virtue. For if a Man had this *intellectual Power* born in him, he would doubtless be virtuous, tho it came not to him in the way of repeated Actions, such as constitute a Habit. For it is not the external Causes, but the internal, which make the essence of a thing. Besides it is this Idea of Virtue which elevates and inclines the mind to love her, and tread in her ways, and which argues Virtue to be a quick and vigorous heat, by which the mind is easily and irresistibly moved to do things which are good and honorable. So that we esteem this very Notion of Virtue able to rowze up men from Sloth and Lethargy, and make those ashamed, who on a few moderate Performances think to set up for Men of Virtue.

II. We term this a *Power intellectual*, not only because of its situation, which is in the *intellectual* part of the Soul (and not in the *animal* part of it, where that Power resides which governs the Members) but also because it is always excited by some Principle which is *intellectual* or rational. By animal *Impressions* we understand every motion of the Body, which being obtruded with any sort of Violence on the Soul, brings danger of Sin and Error, if not carefully watched.

Therefore all such Delusions and Imaginations, as strongly assault the Mind, may fitly be referred to this Head. By *Actions*, I mean all Motions made by the Soul upon deliberation, which is to say, all such as may properly

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properly be termed human Actions; whether they be such as the School-men call *Elicitæ* or *Imperatæ*: that is, whether they do immediately proceed from the Soul it self; or whether they are occasioned from any outward Impressions made upon the Soul. Under which Heads we may rightly comprehend the accepting or refusing any Philosophical Opinion, whether Physical or Metaphysical. And so of any thing else.

III. As to the *Pursuit of the Soul*, we spake of; this was to set off, and more openly express the *intellectual Power*: for if it had not that force to pursue, it would not be Virtue, but only a Disposition towards it. So *Theages* the *Pythagorean* hath it: *That Reason doth not beget in us a Continency and Forbearance, but by putting a forcible Restraint upon Lust and Anger. And that when the Passions do overcome, and put the same forcible restraint upon Reason, she then gives place to Incontinency and a softness of mind which receives all Impressions; when as bare Dispositions without such a forcible restraint, can only produce imperfect Virtues, and imperfect Vices.*

Wherefore the Philosopher makes these interchangeable Conflicts, and Dispositions of the Soul, to be but Virtues half perfect, as also the Vices but half inveterate.

And whereas we say, the Soul pursues what was *absolutely and simply the best*, this was to manifest that famous distinction of a twofold Good;

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Good; one *General*, which was *absolutely good*, or *absolutely better*. The other *Particular*, and which in respect of some *single Inclination of any particular person, was good or better*: that is to say, either grateful, or more grateful. But what we hold to be the *absolute Good, or better thing*, is that which proves grateful, or more grateful, to the *Boniform Faculty of the Soul*, which we have already pronounced to be a *Thing Divine*.

Moral. Nicom. l. 6. c. 13.

IV. ARISTOTLE seems to me, in his Ethicks to *Nicomachus*, to point at this very Faculty, saying, *That what is best, in whatever Subject it be, is not apparent, but to a good Man.* By which he means, that men do discover that which is best in every Subject (I mean really and simply best) not as they are *knowing*, but as they are *Good*. So that methinks he had spoken more correctly had he styled this Faculty, *The very Eye of the Soul*, than to call it that sort of Natural *Industry*, which seems too much bordering upon *Craft*. But forasmuch as no man can feel the Motives and Dictates of this Divine Faculty, but one who hath attained to it by diligent application, we must have recourse to some middle Principle to serve as *Mercury* did of old, and be an Interpreter between God and Man. And for this we shall constitute that which we call *Right Reason*. Wherefore that certainly is *absolutely and simply the best*, which according to the Circumstances of the Case in question, comes up closest to *Right Reason*, or is rather consentaneous with it. V.

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V. For *Right Reason, which is in Man, is a sort of Copy or Transcript of that Reason or Law eternal which is registred in the Mind Divine.* However this Law is not by Nature made otherwise known unto us, than as 'tis communicated and reflected on our Minds by the same Right Reason, and so shines forth. But by how much it shines forth, by so much doth it oblige the Conscience, even as a Law Divine inscribed in our Hearts. To this very Sense the *Pythagoreans* pronounced of Virtue: *That it was the Habit of doing what ought to be done.* They did not barely intend, *The doing what was equal, and in a Mean, or doing what needed neither Addition nor Subtraction, as being already what it ought to be:* But the doing that which was *obligatory,* and of Duty, and according to a Law which was immutable. And so also did *Epictetus* famously pronounce, *What ever appears to be best, let that be your inviolable Law.*

VI. The heighth of Virtue is this, constantly to pursue that which to Right Reason seems best. For indeed she her self is even absolutely and simply that best, not only as she is so consonant to *Divine* Reason, which does nothing partially for the sake of this or that particular: but as she generously dictates, like to a common *Parent,* such Laws as tend, in their own Nature, to the Happiness of all Mankind. Hence *Aristotle* calls God, *the Law eternal, as regarding every way with equal Benignity.* So also *De M do, c*

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also, as well among the *Pythagoreans* as the *Stoicks*, it was held, *That to follow God*, or *to follow Nature*, was just the same thing as to follow *Right Reason*. For this alone is that which constitutes our Nature, and distinguishes a Man from a Beast.

VII. YET after all, as *Aristotle* himself is fain often to confess, tho it be easie to agree this Best to be that which to Right Reason is consonant; yet what this Right Reason is, or what is the measure of it, seems a most difficult matter truly to resolve. The Philosopher having (in his great Morals) brought in one who demands, what Right Reason was, and where to be found? The Answer is but darkly thus, *That unless a Man have within himself a Sense of things of this Nature, there is nothing to be done.* It was indeed the Answer which a Physician gave to one who asked him, how he should distinguish, which was the paleness that argued a man to be ill of an Ague. But the same Philosopher presently subjoins, *That it was the like Case, as to make a Judgment of the Passions; namely, That by some Sense and Feeling of them, the Conjecture was to be made.* So that in short the final Judgment upon this matter, is all referred to *inward Sense*, which I confess, I should rather have called, *The Boniform Faculty of the Soul.* However, as *Aristotle* somewhere notes, of Men who by a sort of Violence, and without Reason, are hurried on to good, I must own, that whoever is so affected, differs but

Magn. Moral. lib. 2. c. 10.

Magn. Moral. lib. 2. c 8.

L. 3. c. 1. § 2.

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but little from them who are inspired. And certainly this Principle which I call the *Boniform Faculty*, is the most divine thing within us, but hath nothing in it that savours of Fanaticism.

VIII. The Philosopher, in another place, defines *Right Reason* thus, *That such Reason was right, as was conformable to Prudence.* Now whereas *Prudence* it self is nothing but that natural *Sagacity*, or well cultivated *Diligence* of the Mind; which he elsewhere calls, *The very Eye of the Soul*: This only brings back the same answer as before; resolving right Reason rather into an *inward Sense*, or an *inward Faculty* of *Divination*; than into any certain and distinct Principles, by which a Man might judge of that which in every thing were the best. *Moral. Eudem. l. 5. c. 13.*

IX. However, the same Philosopher is at last, towards the end of his *Eudemicks*, very clear and very apposite in this Matter. For when he brings the same question on the stage, the Resolution is as follows, '*That we are in this, as in other Occasions, to regulate our Lives by the Dictates of our internal Regent; that we must aspire to such habits, as may enable us to imitate the high Character of such a Regent, and to conform thereto in all things.*' Which amounts to this, that our Consciences must be kept pure and immaculate. For he adds, *That as human Nature does consist of two parts, the one to command, the other to obey: so by institution in all Governments, the inferiors are tyed to be subject to the Rulers.* *Moral. Eudem. l. 7. c. 15.*

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That also this Government is of a double sort. For just as Physick requires one thing, and Health another, and that the first is but in order to the latter; even so it fares in contemplating the Ways of God. He, as the high and supreme Governor, first sends his Edicts forth; but the end and designation of them is to beget prudence in the heart of Man: and then the work of prudence is to distinguish what in human affairs is best. Now as to God, he already is all-sufficient, and wants nothing; wherefore we may infer, that whatever choice, or whatever acquisition of natural Gifts we have, which may most contribute to annex the Soul to God by contemplation; this surely is the best, and this the noblest Measure for all our Deliberations. As on the other side, whatever is so deficient, or so redundant as to interrupt our Contemplation of God, or of the Homage we owe him, this of all things is the vilest.

This was the Answer given, which, for Truth and Divinity, savours not so much of the Philosopher, as of an Oracle.

X. YET let us add what he writes, to the same effect, unto *Nicomachus*. He says, *That as to the Gods, their whole Being was a continued Series of Happiness; but as to Man, that he had nothing of it farther, than as he held resemblance with his Divine Original.* Now he should have remembered, that the Divine Life was not a matter of Sapience only, but was principally to consist in Love, Benignity, and in Beneficence or Well-doing. For these are the Fruits of that Celestial Particle of the Soul,

Lib. 10. *c.* 8.

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Soul, which we term the *Boniform*; and by which, above any other Acceſſions, we are made moſt like unto Almighty God.

XI. PYTHAGORAS, according to what *Elian* ſaid of him, made a happy Conjunction of theſe two things, ſaying, *The Gods had been bountiful to Mortals in two eminent Bleſſings, namely, to ſpeak the truth, and, to act righteouſly: for that both of theſe bore reſemblance unto the Works of the immortal Gods.* Which is to ſay, that the Perfection of Divine Life is made up of *Truth* and *Well-doing*. Wherefore, if men will abide by the Judgment of *Ariſtotle* or *Pythagoras*, or others of the moſt celebrated, they muſt own that the Meaſure of *Right Reaſon* is to imitate the Divine Wiſdom, and the Divine Goodneſs, with all our Might. To which alſo we may refer, and ſo expound, that ſaying of *Theages* the *Pythagorean*: *That the ſource, cauſe and meaſure of human Felicity, does conſiſt in the knowledge of ſuch things as are moſt excellent, and moſt divine.* *Var. Hiſt. l. 12. c. 50.*

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Chap. IV.

Certain Axioms or Intellectual Principles; into which almoſt all the Reaſons of Morality may be reduced.

I. BUT ſince there is a Race of Men in the World, who are quite ſeared up as to God, and all that is Divine; who allow no ſuch thing as Superiority in the Faculties, but aſſert Obedience to that Paſſion in particular, which ſhall happen to uſurp above the reſt, and make it the top of human Felicity to fullfil the deſires thereof: To ſuch as theſe, who would injuriouſly paſs for men, which they are not; we muſt proceed by other ſteps than what are already ſet down. For we muſt not talk of our *Boniform Faculty*, as the meaſure of Right Reaſon, and flowing from the divine part of the Soul, but merely inſiſt with them upon what refers to the Intellect: ſince, as *Ariſtotle* notes, *ſome things are intelligible, tho men know not the reaſon why.*

Moral. Eudem. l. 3. c. 8.

II. FROM this Magazine therefore let us draw forth a ſtock of ſuch Principles, as being immediately and irreſiſtibly true, need no proof; ſuch, I mean, as all Moral Reaſon may in a ſort have reference unto; even as all Mathematical Demonſtrations are found in ſome *firſt undeniable Axioms.* And becauſe theſe

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these Principles arise out of that Faculty, which the *Greeks* call Νῦς, that signifies the Mind or Intellect; and that the Words *Noema* and *Noemata* derive therefrom, and properly signifie Rules intellectual: we do not therefore improperly stile the Rules that hereafter follow, *Moral Noema's*. But, lest any should fansie them to be morose and unpracticable, I must here affirm, they propose nothing for good, which at the same time is not grateful also, and attended with delight.

NOEMA I.

Good is that which is grateful, pleasant, and congruous to any Being, which hath Life and Perception, or that contributes in any degree to the preservation of it.

NOEMA II.

But, on the other side, whatever is ungrateful, unpleasant, or any ways incongruous to any Being which hath Life and Perception, is evil. And if it finally tend to the destruction of that being, it is the worst of evils.

As for example-sake, if any thing should not only offend your Eyes or Ears, but bring also blindness and deafness upon you; this were the worst that could happen. But if the sight and hearing were but only impaired thereby, this were but an inferior Evil. And the Reason holds the same in the other Faculties.

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NOEMA III.

Among the ſeveral kinds or degrees of ſenſible Beings which are in the world, ſome are better and more excellent than others.

NOEMA IV.

One Good may excel another in Quality, or Duration, or in both.

This is ſelf-evident: yet it may be illuſtrated from this abſurdity, that otherwiſe one Life would not be better, nor one ſort of Happineſs greater than another: ſo as Gods, Angels, Men, Horſes, and the vileſt Worm, would be happy alike; which none but a mad man can fancy. And as to Duration there is no ſcruple thereof.

NOEMA V.

What is good is to be choſen; what is evil to be avoided: but the more excellent Good is preferable to the leſs excellent: and a leſs Evil is to be born, that we may avoid a greater.

NOEMA VI.

In things of which we have no experience, we muſt believe thoſe who profeſs themſelves to have experience. Provided always that there be no ſuſpicion of fraud or worldly contrivance, but

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but that there be a Conformity between their Professions and their Lives.

NOEMA VII.

'Tis more eligible to want a Good, which for weight and duration is very great, than to bear an Evil of the same proportion. And by how much any Evil shall in weight and duration exceed the Good, by so much the more willingly can we be without such Good.

NOEMA VIII.

That which must certainly come to pass, ought to be reputed as present; inasmuch as the future will one day come upon us. And herein some proportion of Reason holds in things future, which are very probable.

NOEMA IX.

Good things, which excel less, are distinguished by Weight and Duration, from those things which excel more.

NOEMA X.

A present Good is to be rejected or moderated, if there be a future Good of infinite more value, as to weight and duration to be but probably expected: and much more therefore if such expectation be certain.

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NOEMA XI.

A present Evil is to be born, if there be a probable future Evil infinitely more dangerous, as to weight and duration, to be avoided thereby: and this is much more strongly incumbent, if the future evil be certain.

NOEMA XII.

A mind which is free from the prejudices that attend passion, judges more uprightly than a mind which by such passions, or any other corporeal Impressions is solicited or disturbed. For even as a cloudy Sky, and turbulent Sea will neither transmit or reflect any Light; so a disturbed mind admits no Reason, tho it come never so plain and clear.

Boethius sets this forth in very elegant Verse, which thus begins,

Nubibus atris Fundere possint
Condita nullum Sydera Lumen, &c.

The Stars, tho of themselves so bright,
When hid in Clouds can give no light.

III. AND these are those Rules or *Noemata*, which almost suffice to engender in the Soul that *Prudence*, *Temperance*, and *Fortitude* which regard the Duties *we owe our selves*. Those which follow regard what we owe *unto others*;

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others; as to *God*, to *Man*, and to *Virtue* it self. And therefore they are the Rules and Principles of *Sincerity*, *Justice*, *Gratitude*, *Mercy* and *Piety*. For I account *Piety* among the Moral Virtues, inasmuch as God may by the Light of Nature be known.

NOEMA XIII.

We must pursue the greatest and most perfect Good with the greatest zeal, and lesser Goods with a zeal proportionably less. Nor must we subordinate greater Goods to less, but less to greater.

NOEMA XIV.

The Good, which in any case in question, you would have another man do unto you; the same you are bound in the like case, to do unto him; So far forth as it may be done without prejudice to a Third.

NOEMA XV.

The Evil you would not have done to your self, you must abstain from doing the same to another, as far as may be done without prejudice to a Third.

NOEMA XVI.

Return good for good, and not evil for good.

NOEMA

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NOEMA XVII.

'Tis good for a man to have wherewithal to live well and happily.

NOEMA XVIII.

If it be good for one man to have wherewithal to be happy; it evidently follows, 'tis twice as good for two men to be happy, thrice for three, a thousand times for a thousand; and so of the rest.

NOEMA XIX.

'Tis better that one man be disabled from living voluptuously, than that another should live in want and calamity.

NOEMA XX.

'Tis good to obey the Magistrate in things indifferent, even where there is no penalty to disobey.

NOEMA XXI.

'Tis better to obey God than Men, or even our own Appetites.

NOEMA XXII.

'Tis good and just to give every man what is his due, as also the use and possession thereof without any trouble.

NOEMA

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NOEMA XXIII.

However 'tis manifeſt, that a man may ſo behave himſelf, as that what was his own by acquiſition or donation, may of right ceaſe to be his own.

IV. THESE and ſuch like *Sayings* may juſtly be called *Moral Axioms* or *Noemas*: for they are ſo clear and evident of themſelves, that, if men conſider impartially, they need no manner of Deduction or Argument, but are agreed to as ſoon as heard. And thus we are prepared, as with ſo many Touch-ſtones, to let the inquiſitive know what *Right Reaſon* is. For in ſhort, *it is that which by certain and neceſſary Conſequences, is at length reſolved into ſome intellectual Principle which is immediately true.*

And if any ask after Examples in this kind, that are ſuited to Morality, they may have recourſe to ſuch as are above recited.

CHAP.

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Chap. V.

To shew which are the Faculties whereby we do find and understand what is simply, and in its own nature good.

I. IT is now manifest, there is something which is simply and absolutely good, which in all human Actions is to be sought for. That it's Nature, Essence, and Truth are to be judged of by *Right Reason*; but that the relish and delectation thereof, is to be taken in by the *Boniform Faculty*. Also that all Moral Good, properly so called, is *Intellectual* and *Divine: Intellectual*, as the Truth and Essence of it is defined and comprehended by the Intellect: and *Divine*, as the Savour and Complacency thereof, is most effectually tasted through that high Faculty, by which we are lifted up and cleave unto God, (that Almighty One, who is the most pure and absolute Good, and who never wills any thing but what is transcendently the Best.) So that for a man thus to know, and thus to ascend, is not only the highest Wisdom, but the highest Felicity. And it is by this Gradation toward things divine, or by this Flower and Perfection of the Soul, that we attain to a sort of Coalition with what is perfectly the Best. So it was said of old;

Objectum quoddam est quod mentis flore prehendas.

II. Now

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II. Now as to those men who shall either slily or advisedly reject the Truth of our *Theorems*, 'tis easie to guess by this distrelish, what are the Faculties they consult. Nay, 'tis plain they set up for the *animal Appetite*; and openly declare, that what pleases them most, is only the best. But tho we may here nature to call this a poor brutal delusion, yet these things are most properly referred unto, the Chapter of *Temperance*.

II. In the mean time, for what relates even to *Justice*, the Sentiments of those Gentlemen are nothing better. They will not allow for the chiefest Good that which is absolutely and in its own nature just; but that which to *themselves* looks well, without any regard to their Neighbors. And if you enquire into the rate of this *Good* they so indulge, and so pursue, they make it no secret to tell you plainly, it is what affords best entertainment to their *Senses*. Alas, how deplorable is it, that man should ever value himself upon such an affinity with the Beast! Nay, in human shape become the very Beast! Whereas he has title to think higher of himself, and to be one and the same with what is most eminent within him; or what in Dignity stands next thereto: which is doubtless his *Intellect* and right *Reason*.

IV. For as in Numeration the Sum Total is accounted from the last Unite, so is it in her matters; the last and most perfect essential difference makes a Thing to be what it is,

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is, and doth distinguish it from all Thing else. Wherefore, if any man shall make *sole good* to be that, which to himself grateful, as insisting wholly on the delectat of his *animal Appetite*, he plainly publish himself for a Brute. But if he means and tends such grateful thing, as to the Intelle or Right Reason, or to the *Bonitorem Faculty* is suitable: This indeed (as *Plotinus* sa is the Object of a *perfect Man*, I mean of *intellectual Man*, and for such you may pronounce him.

V. For this is the plain Character of the intellectual Life, that as in the search of Truth it is not inquired what may seem true to any one Body of Men, tho ever so numerous much less to any man in particular, but what is simply and absolutely the Truth; so neither doth it set up that for good, which to any one man, or to any number of men, appears such; but that which really and absolutely so; and which, in like Circumstances every intellectual Creature is bound to elect, the animal Nature never so averse. Now as it happens in *specious Arithmetick*, that every signal Operation stands afterwards for Theorem or Conclusion: so in Morals such preference and election, as we have mentioned, stand for an eternal President, guide our actions in all like cases, when circumstances are the same. And let us acquiesce therein, and acknowledge the Truth thereof, tho it prove never so ungrateful to our Appetite

Appetites, and seem quite contrary to our external sense.

VI. WHEREFORE as it is an Error in the Intellect, to resign it self so far to the Imagination, or to the Sense, as but to waver in the pursuit of *Truth*: So doubtless is it an error in the Will, to be so captivated, as to resign it self to the animal Appetite, and to forsake what is absolutely good. For if the Will may want at some seasons that relish of good which it ought to have; this is merely the Will's neglect, in not exciting that divine Faculty, by which we not only know what is best, but are elevated, and even ravished when we enjoy it. For it is plain, that when we open our Eyes, such are the Charms of this Joy, that a man would rather venture a thousand deaths, than by any base prevarication to hazard his portion in a state of life, which is so desirable and so divine.

VII. WHEREFORE as it is now plain, that something there is, which of its own nature, and incontestably is *true*: so is there somewhat which of its own nature is simply *good*. Also that as the former is comprehended by the Intellect, so the sweetness and delight of the latter is relished by the *Boniform Faculty*. Wherefore as to those who pronounce every thing good, so far as at any rate it can be grateful, and so establish it for the standard of human Actions; this is Madness it self, inasmuch as hereby they rank the Wise, the Fools, and the Mad-men, all in the

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the ſame ſtate. Nay, perhaps they herein prefer the Fools and Mad-men before the Wiſe; ſince theſe are the moſt likely to perſiſt againſt all Senſe and Reaſon, and to ſtick by that which is *grateful*, let it be never ſo deſtructive, vile or ridiculous.

VIII. Some there are, I confeſs, who ſpeak a little more cautiouſly in this Matter, and would have the man they call *wiſe*, have *Self-preſervation* ſtill in his eye, how inordinate ſoever they allow him in all the reſt. By which they ſhew, that if their Fool or Mad-man *can* but here be ſhot-free; they little conſider of Immortality, or the Fruits of ſolid Wiſdom. However it is plain to every man of Senſe, that a bare ſelf-preſervation is not a deſirable thing; for ſuch may be the Scorns and Scourges of this Life, that none but a ſtupid Creature would in ſuch Circumſtances deſire to live.

But laſtly, if according to them, Life and Conſervation be ſo valuable, it muſt alſo follow, that the more durable theſe are, they are ſo much the better, and that the moſt durable is beſt of all. Furthermore, if ſuch ſelf-conſervation of one man be really good, it is doubly ſo to preſerve two men, and thrice as much to ſave three, and ſo forward. Whence by the Light of Nature, it is manifeſt, that every intellectual Creature ſtands bound to provide, both in preſent and in future, for his own, and his Neighbor's Preſervation, ſo far forth as in him lies, and as it may conſiſt without doing prejudice to

Noema 18.

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to a third. This is what certainly fulfils not only a great part of *Justice*, but of Temperance, and indeed of every other Virtue.

Chap. VI.

Of the Passions in general, and of the Helps they afford.

I. What *Virtue* is in the general we have already fixed. And now before we descend to the several sorts or Species thereof, it will not be amiss to premise somewhat of the *Passions*, about which such Virtues are conversant; so as to explain their Nature, their Use, or their Disadvantage: and thereby prepare the Mind to take in such an Idea of *Virtue*, as may be *full and adequate*.

II. But by *Passions* I do not barely understand such as are commonly handled in Moral Philosophy, but every other corporeal Impression, which hath force enough to blind the Mind, or abuse the Judgment, in discerning what in every case were the best. Wherefore I add hereunto all sorts of fantastick Notions and false Impressions that are grown pertinacious, and which either by ill custom, or the Power of Education, or by *internal Proclivity*, so seise upon the Mind, as to lead us into any apparent Error. For Virtue ought to

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reach out her Authority to the weeding up even of these remote Evils, lest the Mind be shaken, when it should judge; or perverted in the Prosecution of that which is simply the best.

Yet first we shall treat of those Passions which are properly so called; such as are *Love*, *Hatred*, *Anger*, and the rest of that kind. Concerning all which we must maintain it against the *Stoicks*, that of their own Nature they are good; and that the Intendments of Divine Providence are not less understood by their Use, than by the Structure of those Organs, which compose every animal Body.

Vide in this Book, *L.* I. *c.* 6. § 2.

III. The Use and Utility of them may in the general be even illustrated thus; that when Passions happen to be joined with a more vehement agitation of the Spirits, they seem to perform in a Man (whom some call *the little World*) what the Winds do in the greater. For as these purge and purifie the Air, so those cleanse and defecate the Blood, and suffer it not by stagnation to corrupt.

IV. Also these Passions play upon the Soul in a thousand shapes, and the Scenes of Fancy are so charming, and so variously obtruded, that they often tempt, and even combat with the Understanding. Yet as we get experience, and are made stronger by this Warfare; so is there a new Joy excited in us to see, that notwithstanding all such assaults or the insolence of those Delusions, yet we are sensible of a divine Principle within us, which

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which we call the *Mind*, (that Heavenly Spark, which holds steady in the midst of all such Commotions) by which we bear up and maintain the same sense, stability and judgment we had; and finally and inseparably adhere to that which is simply the best. *L.* 1. *c.* 6. § 8.

V. BESIDES, from such Conflict and such Victory, it is plain, there is a certain Government or Empire acknowledged to be in the Soul; and that the intellectual part hath something which it doth teach and instruct, as a Father doth his Son; or which it breeds and trains up, as in a lower instance, a Huntsman doth his Dogs. *Aristotle* intimates something to this purpose, when he makes two parts in the Soul, which do in a manner both partake of Reason: *The one properly of it self, and in its own right; the other as it were a Son obeying his Father.* And here he understands that part of the Soul which exciteth towards Concupiscence and Appetite. For he saith, *That the vegetative part partakes not at all of Reason; but that the concupiscible part, and (more universally) the appetitive part of the Soul, does in a sort partake of Reason: inasmuch as it hearkens to what Reason inculcates, and is subjected to the Commands thereof.* And yet, with favor from so great a Man, it is not plain, but that the very *Plastic Part* of the Soul (I mean the seminal, or formative part) which he here calls the *Vegetative*, does also in some degree submit to Reason. For that all those natural Appetites and Eruptions, which *Ethic. Nicom. lib.* 1. *c.* 13.

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we observe, are not so much the Fruits and Effects of the *Perceptive Part*, as of the *Plastic*.

VI. DOUBTLESS the Source and Fountain of these is in the *Plastic Part*, whose chief Seat is in the *Heart*; but the sense and feeling of them is in the *perceptive part*, whose Seat is in the *Brain*. And whereas both these Parts are essentially, vitally, and inseparably the same; it is no wonder if the perceptive part be solicited and wrought upon, and even hurried away by the Passions. It is true these Passions, are of themselves, but as blind Instincts of Nature, such as perhaps are found in the very Plants; unto whom Youth and and Old Age do also agree. But they are conspicuous in living Creatures, as in Birds, when they build their Nests, or hatch their young Ones. Also in Men these Instincts are not only seen, but are, by distinct and reflex Operation of the Mind, known to proceed from some other Cause: as either from the *Plastic* Part of the Soul alone; or else as it is in conjunction with that universal Plastic Principle, which by us is termed *the Spirit of Nature*. And perhaps the same is pointed at by *Aristotle* himself in that Axiom which he so often repeats, *That Nature does nothing in vain*.

L. 1. *c.* 8. § 1.
L. 1. *c.* 12. § 2. &c.

VII. FOR as there is a formative or seminal Principle of all Plants, and the like of all animal Bodies; into which Nature hath infused, and then excited, such Operations and Instincts

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Inſtincts, as tend to the continuance of every individual production; ſo more eſpecially are thoſe Inſtincts fixed, which tend to the ſupport and preſervation of the Species; as (namely) the act of Generating, and that alſo of a paſſionate Concern in every Creature towards their young. The power of this latter is wonderfully ſeen in the diſſection of a living Bitch with Whelps: for if you but hurt any of the young ones in her ſight, ſhe barks, and is greatly diſquieted; but if you reach them towards her mouth, ſhe forgets her own condition, and falls with a tender kindneſs to the licking of them in the midſt of all her Torments. This ſtrange ſight is reported by *Realdus Columbus*, to have been often expoſed by him in the publick Theatre at his Anatomical Diſſections. *De re anatomicâ, lib.* 14.

VIII. HENCE it appears, that all the animal Inſtincts and Impulſes do belong to the Region of Nature, and are but imperfect Shadows and Footſteps of the Divine Wiſdom and Goodneſs, which vouchſafes as in this manner to glimmer in the dark. And theſe are thoſe Rudiments and Primordials, againſt which, by the help of a more pure and ceeſtial Light, we do contend, as often as they nvade the Limits of the ſuperior Law. That s to ſay, the *Intellectual* Part of the Soul trives with the *Plaſtic*; which, tho fiercely abetted and incited by the *Spirit of Nature* in ſome certain Deſires and Appetites; yet on the other ſide, a Divine Power is at hand, *L.* 1. *c.* 12. § 8.

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L. 1. c. 6. § 4. urging resistance against all such incantations, and still asserting a preference to what is most honorable, and simply the best.

IX. THERE is a witty conceit, tho insufficiently grounded, as if the Soul should be fast penn'd up in a certain glandulous part of the Brain, called the *Conarion*. That this glandulous part being thus animated and defended by the Soul on the one hand (as in its proper Garison) should on the other be attacked by the darts and assaults of the Spirits (even as it were some Pigmy that with a Feather or a Twig were employed in beating of the Winds) and that herein should consist that hostility of the inferior part of the Soul with the superior: which the Divines call, *The War between the Flesh and the Spirit.*

X. HOWEVER, thus much is manifest, that there is within us a certain Principality or Empire, and that our mind is not a mere solitary Inspector; but rather as a Regent, which is attended and fortified with numerous Guards; and does not barely command over its own Passions, but over the *Spirit* of *Nature*; so as by a diviner Magick not only to repel, but even vanquish the Temptations and Sorceries thereof.

L. 1. c. 8. § 2.

XI. FROM all which it is further plain, that by the service of the Passions, our Life and our Senses are more dilated, and also quickened: even as *Plato* noted in his *Phedrus, That the Affections were as the Wings and the Chariots of the Mind.*

L. 1. c. 8. § 3. L. 1. c. 12. § 11.

XII.

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XII. DES CARTES also says very happily, that the Passions seem to be a most certain and solid Treasure of the Soul. For altho (says he) we are apt to be deceived by the many other ways of Perception, and cannot be certain if things be the same as they are represented; yet as to the Passions, there is not room for Deception in them, since they are so annexed to the Soul, that it were impossible to feel them, if they were not; and that they must needs have a Being, inasmuch as they are felt. Hence, by a sense of Virtue ariseth a wonderful Peace and Tranquillity to the Mind; a permanent sweetness and complacency which is never to be repented of. It surmounts not only all those Pleasures which conclude with Repentance, and Bitterness of the Soul; but excels all Opinions and Philosophical Speculations whatsoever. This certainly upon many other accounts is so, besides that main one, that in those matters a man may almost ever be doubting. But in this, which is Passion, and not Opinion, there can be no room for doubt. *L. 2. c. 9. § 12.*

XIII. LAST of all, besides this Use of the Passions (which is almost common to all of them) that they strike, or rather ingrave the Soul with a more lively Impression of the Object; there is another use of them deserving notice; as namely, the rating of things that are laudable and just according as we find our Passions excited by them, or as they are felt and relished by a sort of Connexion with

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our Souls. For passionate affecting is the most intimate and immediate Fruit of Life; and tho we may adorn the best of things with a superficial and imaginary approbation, yet our Souls are not able, without such Passions, to wed the Object, and, as it were, to intermix it with our Sense and Life. Nay, we know not how by any other ways to discover the Union there is between our Souls and those Objects, unless we have an equal antipathy against things vile and ignoble, whether in our selves or others. For this is the nature of true Virtue, to love the best things, and hate the worst, even to abhorrence, in whomsoever they appear. Evil in one man is evil in another, and is detestable as being such. And it is the most perfect state of Life, to love good things, and to hate the bad, at least; to bear them with indignation, whenever they are obtruded upon us. For this gives testimony, that the inferior part of the Soul submits, and is overawed by the superior; and that the whole man is as it were in the firy Chariot of his Affections, *Elias*-like, carried up towards God and Heaven.

XIV. But if any man shall, under a pretended affectation of *Peace*, *Prudence*, or *Tranquillity*, set up for submitting to any lewd usurpation over the common Rights of Mankind, and the eternal Laws of Virtue; and yet, upon every trivial affront to himself, flie out and even burn with indignation and wrath; this were Hypocrisie in such a degree,

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gree, as not barely to deſerve Scorn, but Deteſtation.

XV. PASSIONS therefore are not only good, but ſingularly needful to the perfecting of human life. Yet muſt they be with theſe two Conditions. Firſt that our Deſires ſteer towards a proper Object, which may be called, *The true Impulſe:* For thoſe who offend herein are the worſt of ſinners; ſuch as are the malicious, and thoſe that delight in Blood and Tortures, and others of that ſtrain.

The ſecond Rule is, That the Deſires be adequate to the Object, or the End; and that (according to the thirteenth *Noema*) the beſt and greateſt things be purſued with our chiefeſt Paſſion; the middle things with leſs; and the loweſt with the leaſt. But this alſo in ſuch ſort, as never to allow any ſuch violence in the Deſire, as may either eclipſe the Light of Reaſon, or obſtruct that end to which Nature aſpires, by the help of thoſe Affections wherewith ſhe has endowed our Souls. So that this Rule we may call, *A moderate Impulſe of the Paſſions.*

XVI. BUT if any man ſhould propoſe the rooting up of all Deſires, in order to free the Soul from Diſcord; and to end all ſtrife and combuſtion which the Paſſions maintain againſt the Soul, or among themſelves: This to me would ſound no better, than as if one, to prevent Diſcord on the Harp, ſhould let down all the Strings; or than as if another ſhould with Drugs ſet all the Humors of his Body *L. 1. c. 12. § 9.*

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Body in a Ferment, for fear of falling sick. Wherefore *Theages* the *Pythagorean* said very elegantly; *That it was not the part of Virtue to discharge the Passions of the Soul, such as Pleasure and Pain; but to temper them aright.* He also after this extends himself in that double similitude we have mentioned, about a due mixture in the Humors of the Body, and a right Harmony in the tuning of the Strings, which we need not here repeat.

XVII. But what is now to be the Rule and Measure by which the Desires are to be temper'd and rectified, the two Conditions afore-mentioned do set forth. And to one of these, that famous Declaration of the Orator may be referred. *He therefore* (says *Tully*) *whoever it be that by Constancy and Moderation is of a quiet Mind, and at peace with himself; who is neither wasted with Troubles, or distracted with Fears, nor burnt up with Thirst of any inordinate Passion, or undoing himself with vain and trivial Delights: This is the wise man whom we long to behold. And he also is the happy Man, to whom nothing can arrive in human Affairs so intolerable, as to depress his mind, or yet so joyful as to transport him. But on the other side, when we see a Man inflamed with Lust, and mad with Ambition, catching at all things with insatiable Avarice, and that the more his Wealth pours in, or his Pleasures abounded, the more ravenous he became: This* (saith *Tully*) *is he whom a wise Man would not scruple to pronounce the most unhappy, and the most perverted of all Men.*

Quæst. Tuscul. lib. 4.

CHAP.

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Chap. VII.

Of Passions properly so called, according to their kinds.

I. Forasmuch as no Man has, in my Opinion, more accurately summed up, or distinctly defined, the several kinds or species of Passions, than the renowned Philosopher *Des Cartes*; I will tread, for the most part, in his Footsteps, unless upon great Motives to the contrary. But it is not amiss, in the first place, to lay down a larger Definition of Passions, and to apply the same to the kinds thereof, which follow.

II. Passion *then is a vehement Sensation of the Soul, which refers especially to the Soul it self, and is accompanied with an unwonted motion of the Spirits.*

Here, I say, *Passion* is rightly called *Sensation*, since in Passion the Soul is sensible that it suffers; and with *Vehemence*, because it vehemently suffers. That *the Soul it self* is said, in this Sensation, *especially to suffer*, is to distinguish it from other Sensations; whether of Odors, Sounds and Colors, *&c.* which refer to external Objects; or of Hunger, Thirst, and Pain, *&c.* which regard our Bodies. Next, I say, that this Sensation is accompanied *with the Motion of the Spirits*, rather than to say that it results therefrom; inasmuch as the

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the former evermore happens; but this not always, or very seldom, if you but exclude such Motion as results from Eating, Drinking, or the Change of Air. For in external Objects, which agitate the Sense or Imagination, it is the Soul moves the Spirits, and not the Spirits the Soul.

De Passion. animæ, part. 2. Art. 69.

III. Des Cartes brings all the Passions of the Soul under six principal and primitive kinds: Namely, *Admiration*, *Love*, *Hatred*, *Cupidity*, *Joy*, and *Grief*. And that they fall naturally into this Order and Distinction does thus appear; For as soon as a new Object, or an old one under new Circumstances, occurs unto us, it stops and entertains our Faculty of Considering: it strains up the Attention beyond its wonted pitch, and this is called *Admiration*. Now because this may so happen, before we comprehend whether such Object will prove grateful or ungrateful to us, it may deservedly be called the very first Passion.

IV. Yet after this, when the Soul comes to consider the *Object* as *grateful* or *ungrateful*, (which is the same almost as *good* or *evil*) then one of them excites *Love*, and the other *Hatred*. But if this *Good* or *Evil* be considered by us as remote and *future*, they kindle in us *Cupidity*; namely, to join with, and enjoy the *first*, and to avoid or repel the *latter*. Both which are by the Schools very properly called *Desiderium* and *Fuga*. But lastly, if this Good and Evil be looked upon as *present*, the first begets *Joy*, and the other *Grief*.

V.

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V. I WILL not deny but that *Des Cartes* had his Reasons thus to enumerate the Passions; however I think I have as sufficient Motives to contract them; and that into the three first, of *Admiration*, *Love* and *Hatred*. For what is *Desire* but Love, extending it self towards future Good? And what is *Flight* but *Hatred*, in turning away from the evil at hand, or at least in fortifying against it? What is *Joy* but *Love*, which triumphs in possessing the thing beloved? And what is *Grief* but *Hatred*, to be involv'd and haraſſed by the present Evil? So that in all these Cases, it is manifest, that either *Love* or *Hatred* lies still at the Root. *L. 2. c. 1. §. 1.*

VI. HENCE it is plain, that the Scholastick Reduction of the Passions to the two Heads, of *Irascible* and *Concupiscible*, which the very best of the old Philosophers made use of, deserves not to be so contemptuously exploded, if but interpreted aright. Yet here I speak but of those Passions which are properly seated in the *Heart*, and not in the *Brain*; where *Admiration* only (as *Des Cartes* hath it) does reside. As to the rest they may, in my opinion, be justly enough referred to those words of *Pythagoras*, which answer to the Schoolmens *Irascible* and *Concupiscible*; which, in proper Terms are *Concupiscence* and *Indignation*. And this latter *is that Emotion of the Soul, by which it testifies wrath against every appearance of what is either evil or ungrateful.* Now if herein there be no consideration either of

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of *present* or *future*, then it is *simple Hatred*; if the Evil be impending it is *Flight*, or else a Cupidity either to resist, or by any expedient to evade it: But if it be actually *present*, then it is *Sorrow*, *Grief*, or *Sickness of the Mind*; which is nothing else but Indignation to suffer, and to stoop under the Tyranny of an Evil, which cannot be shaken off.

VII. The Reason of *Concupiscence* is the same: which if it be fairly accompanied with the appearance of what is good or grateful, and nothing of Time respected, it is called pure and *simple Love*. If the Good be looked on as *future*, it is *Cupidity*, or else *Concupiscence* properly so called; but if it be *present*, then it is *Joy* or *Gladness*.

Yet we must think that it ceaseth to be *Concupiscence*. For unless somewhat that is nauseous and over-cloying supervenes, the Love we mention is naturally prone to a continuation in its own Estate; so as some Ingredient of Concupiscence will still remain.

VIII. Wherefore it is possible there may only be two principal and primitive Passions, which have their proper Residence in the *Heart*. They are called by *Des Cartes* *Love* and *Hatred*; by the Schools *Irascible* and *Concupiscible*: and by *Pythagoras*, *Lust* and *Anger*; which is somewhat remarkable, as from the Use thereof we may have cause to note.

IX. However, at present, and for a more extended Notion of the Passions, I will

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will follow *Des Cartes* in his own Order and Distinction, as to the six general kinds above-mentioned. I will therefore first define them, and then subjoin the respective Species unto each.

Admiration is the first; *And it is a Passion of the Soul, which is struck with the Novelty of any Object, and attentively ingaged in the Contemplation thereof.* The first Rank of the Passions.

Admiration is twofold; the one of *Esteem*, the other of *Despising*. *Esteem is the admiring of the Magnitude or Value of any Object. But Despising is a contrary Admiration at the Littleness or Despicableness of any Object.*

Hence 'tis understood what is *Esteem*, or *Disesteem of a Man's self*; Namely, *when a Man dwells affectedly in the Contemplation of his own Dignity, or is fixed with some Resentment of his own Meanness or Disgrace.* The *Reason* is the same either as to *Disesteem*, or else *Reward*, for others: The first of which is called *Scorning*, and the last *Veneration*. Now *Veneration* is the Value we set upon a free Agent, that can, as we believe, do us either good or harm; and joined with a desire we have of putting our selves in subjection to it. But *Scorn* is a disesteem we put upon a free Agent, which tho capable of doing us either good or hurt, yet we judge so meanly of such Agent, as not to be able to put in execution either the one or the other.

X. In the second Rank come *Love* and *Hatred*.

Love

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The second Rank of the Passions.

Love is a Passion of the Soul, by which it is excited willingly to join it self unto Objects which seem grateful thereunto. Yet here by the words, *To join it self willingly*, is not meant to *covet* its being joined; for that appertains to *Lust*: but it is meant with some emotion to acknowledge the thing to be either good or grateful.

Hatred is a Passion of the Soul, whereby it is incited willingly to separate it self from Objects which seem ingrateful or hurtful thereunto. When he that loves, esteems the Object lesser than himself, it is called simple Inclination, or *good Will*; where equal to himself, then is it *Friendship*; and where greater, then *Devotion*. *Love* which tends singly towards good things, is called *Love*; when towards beautiful things, then *Complacency*.

Also *Hatred*, which refers simply to evil things, is called *Hatred*; if to deformed things, then *Aversion* or *Horror*.

Nor ought we here to forget that noble and natural sort of *Love*, which the *Greeks* termed *Storge*, and which we may call *natural Affection*; or that of *Hatred*, called *Antipathy*.

The third Rank of the Passions.

XI. The third Classis is *Cupidity*, with all its Tribe or Off-spring.

Cupidity is a Passion of the Soul, by which it is carried towards good as it is future. And therefore as the Absence of Evil, and the Presence of Good, are both of them good, *Cupidity* may so far extend to either as they are future. But if any man thinks it more proper, that

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that *Cupidity* about the laſt Object ſhould be called *Deſire*, and about the firſt *Flight*, I am indifferent. Only this is plain, from what is gone before, that among the ſorts of *Cupidity*, thoſe of them excel which ſpring up either from *Horror*, or from *Complacency*. For nothing kindles Deſire ſo much as Pulchritude or *Beauty*; and nothing puts ſooner to flight, than any horrid *Deformity*. And the thing which commonly is thought moſt horrible, is *Death*.

XII. To this Paſſion of *Cupidity*, there may firſt be reduced *Hope*, *Fear*, *Jealouſie*, *Security* and *Deſpair*. Then in the next place, *Irreſolution*, *Animoſity*, *Boldneſs*, *Emulation*, *Cowardiſe*, and *Conſternation*. The firſt Sett of theſe agree in this, that the Object of them all preſents it ſelf in the ſhape of what is *eaſie* or *difficult*; yet without any Dependency of the Event upon our ſelves.

The latter Sett agree in this, that the Object of all ſeems to depend upon our ſelves; yet either with difficulty in the choice of Means, whence comes *Irreſolution*; or elſe in the execution, unto which all the reſt refer.

XIII. HOPE *is a Paſſion of the Soul, by which it is diſpoſed to believe the Event which it deſires.*

And *Fear is a Paſſion, by which it is diſpoſed to believe, that what it deſires will not happen.*

When *Hope* excludes all *Fear*, it is called *Security*, or *Preſumption*; and *Fear*, when it ſhuts out all *Hope*, *Deſpair*. *Jealouſie* is *Fear* of loſing a Good we highly eſteem, but grounded upon trivial Cauſes.

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XIV. IRRESOLUTION *is a Fear of erring in the choice of those Means, which are proper to any certain end.*

Animosity is a Passion which disposes the Mind to act manfully, in the execution of whatever it sets about. And if this happen in things that are attended with much danger, it is called *Boldness* or *Daring*; if it spring from the Example of what success others have had, then *Emulation.* But *Cowardise* is opposed to *Animosity*, as *Consternation* is to *Daring* or *Boldness.* For *Cowardise* is a certain feeble cold Passion of the Soul, that hinders her from doing those things, which it were otherwise in her Power to do. *Consternation* is *Cowardise*, or *Timorousness*, accompanied with Trouble and Amazement, which disables the Soul from resisting an impending Evil.

The 4th. Rank of the Passions.

XV. THE Fourth Classis is *Joy* and *Grief*, which have respect to the *Good* or *Evil* that is present.

The Passions, which refer to this Head, are chiefly distinguished by these Circumstances. First barely, in respect to our selves, or unto others: For present *Good*, as it regards our selves, begets *Joy*, even as present *Evil* does *Grief*: And if Evil betides another, who has deserved it, it causes *Laughter*, but, if he hath not deserved it, then *Commiseration.* If *Good* happens to an unworthy Man, there follows *Envy*; but *Good* happening to another, and which redounds any way to our Benefit, produceth *Congratulation.*

XVI.

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XVI. MOREOVER Good and Evil are considered, in the first place, in respect of the Cause, whether as to our selves, or unto others: For *Good*, done by our selves, begets Satisfaction or Tranquillity of Mind; *Evil* begets Repentance; but the doing a thing which we doubt whether it be good or evil, begets Remorse of Conscience. However Good, performed by others, begets *Favor*, altho not done to our selves; but if to our selves, then *Gratitude*. So *Evil*, committed by others, if not done against our selves, begets *Indignation* only, but if it touches us, then *Anger*.

Again, in respect of the Opinion of others; as the *Good*, which we enjoy, exciteth *Glory* in us; so doth *Evil*, *Shame*.

Lastly, in respect of Time. As the Duration of *Good* begets *Satiety*, or a *Loathing*; so the Duration of Evil lessens *Grief*: but from *Good* that is past, there arises what is properly called *Desire*, viz. to enjoy it again; as from *Evil* that is past, *Mirth*.

XVII. JOY *is a pleasant Commotion of the Soul; or, a Passion, in which does consist the Fruition of Good; which she regards as her own.*

Grief is an ungrateful Passion of the Soul, in which does consist the Inconvenience of Evil, or of some Deficiency, which she sensibly regards as her own.

Derision is a Joy, begotten on any slight Mischief happening to one, who is thought to have deserved it. If this be upon very

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great Grounds, and accompanied with Intentions of open Contempt, it is called *Insulting.*

Envy is Grief which ariseth, when Good happens to any that are unworthy of it.

Commiseration is Grief, when Evil happens to any one who has not deserved it.

Congratulation is Joy, arising by Good that happens to another, in which we think we are some way concerned.

Acquiescing, or *Self-satisfaction*, is of all Joys the most pleasing: and it ariseth from the Opinion of some good Work we have lately performed.

Repentance is Grief, and the bittereſt that can happen, as arising from the Conviction of some Evil committed by us.

Remorse of Conscience is Grief that ariseth upon doubting, whether what we have done be good or not: For 'tis the effect of Rashness, to attempt any Work, before all Hesitation, or Wavering of the Mind, be quieted.

XVIII. FAVOR is a sort of chearful Good-Will or Benevolence towards those, with whose Well-doing we are delighted.

Gratitude is a kind of pleasing desire to do good to them, who have done good unto us.

Indignation is Grief, that is kindled against those who have done some ill thing.

Anger is Indignation against those who have done us hurt, and for which we have purpose of Revenge.

Glory

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Glory is Joy, which ariſeth from Opinion, or from Hope of Praiſe among Men.

Shame is Grief that ariſeth from the Opinion, or Fear, of Reproach.

Satiety is Grief that ariſeth from the ſame Cauſe, from whence Joy did before proceed.

Deſire, properly ſo called, is Grief upon the Loſs of Good, that is never to be recovered.

Mirth is Joy from the Remembrance of paſt Evil.

XIX. THIS is almoſt the ſame Enumeration of the Paſſions that *Des Cartes* has given us; as well of thoſe which are the primitive ones, as of ſuch as are derivative from them, or elſe complicated with them: together with the Definitions of all, as near as we could approach unto that eminent Philoſopher.

As to the Complication it ſelf of thoſe Paſſions that iſſue from the Primitive, I here omit it for Brevity's ſake; as intending elſewhere, and more opportunely, to ſpeak very ſoon thereunto.

But for thoſe deep and *Natural Cauſes* of ſuch *Paſſions*, which lie abſtruſe and remote; as relating either to the *Conarion* (before ſpoken of) or to the Brain; or to certain Motions of the Blood or Spirits; or to the Orifices of the Heart (which are ſometimes more dilated, or more contracted;) or elſe to the Nerves of the Bowels and Stomach; or to the Spleen and Liver; or, finally, to the Heart it ſelf. I do willingly and knowingly paſs them all by; as well for other Reaſons,

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as chiefly, that they rather belong to *Natural Philosophy*, than to *Moral*. Yet far be it from me to say, that the *Effects*, the *Uses*, and the *Ends* of *Passions* do not appertain to *Ethicks*: For I should rather affirm, that the knowledge of those things is a very choice and estimable part thereof.

CHAP. VIII.

The Use and Interpretation of the Passions; and first of Admiration, with all in that Classis: and of the other four Primitive Passions.

I. AS to what concerns the *Ends* and *Use* of the *Passions*, it will not be amiss to pursue them a little larger, and faithfully to interpret the Voice of Nature in them all, as far as we are able. For it is not of small moment towards knowing how Passions are rightly to be moderated and used (which surely in Virtue is the greatest part) if we observe the end unto which Nature, or rather God, who is the Parent of Nature, has destined each of them: as also at what Rate he himself esteems his Works, or would have them esteemed by others. For these Natural and Radical Affections, are not from ourselves, as being the result of free Thinking or Speculation;

L. 1. *c.* 6. § 6.
L. 1. *c.* 12. § 12.

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Speculation; nor are they to be acquired by Methods; but are really in us antecedent to all Notion and Cogitation whatever. For they are, by God, whom we call Nature's Parent, given and implanted in us, as early as Life it self: such I mean, as are in particular the pleasure of Eating and Drinking; which Nature, doubtless, bestowed upon all living Creatures, not only for the Conservation of Life, and Continuance of Health, but as a grateful Exercise of the Faculties of Life. Whence it clearly follows, that nothing should rashly or causelessly be killed; nor should we so far indulge the Pleasure of Eating and Drinking, as to lose the end of that Pleasure, and bring upon our selves Diseases and Death. L. 1. c. 6. § 6.

II. And this is the very thing the *Pythagoreans* advised; Namely, *To terminate what is undetermined.* For what they called *undetermined*, or *unbounded*, they placed in the Passions; and it was in Vertue and Reason that they placed their *Bounduries* or *Determination.* Thus Nature has been the more liberal in bestowing such sort of Affections on us, that Reason might be trusted with a Power to lessen, moderate, and circumscribe, all that is superfluous. And perhaps the Soul, it self, is not so wholly intent on her proper intellectual Pleasure, as totally to neglect the animal Life. From whence we see, it is a kind of serious and settled design of Nature, that this animal Station should never be abandoned by the L. 1. c. 6. § 10.

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Mind of Man. However these Touches are but here by the By, as to those Affections which relate to the Body. Wherefore we shall turn back to the Passions properly so called, and consider their *Ends* and *Uses*, in that order which we before proposed.

III. First then as to *Admiration*, 'tis plain, that it more vigorously imprints in our Memories the observation of new things and *Idea's*; whereby, the Soul being enriched by such Acquisition, we may attain the Knowledge of most Beneficial Truths. And hence it follows, that if any Man be taken up with the Contemplation of new Things, for no other end than for Admiration-sake; he plainly loses the end of this Passion, and becomes a mere *Admirer*. For seeing Nature has given us the Power and Inclination to *esteem*, or to *despise*; it appears thereby that all things are not to be placed by us in the same *Rank*. And as in the kinds of every thing, there is a *better* and a *worse*: so certainly is there something which is the very *best* of all; and which by the Dictates of Nature, we are bound to *aspire* unto.

Lib. 1. *c.* 6. § 11.

IV. The *Esteem of a Man's self is a Passion, mixed of Admiration, Joy, and Love, of his own Condition:* But *the Disesteem of a Man's self is from Admiration, Grief, and Self-love, which is mixed with Hatred for his own Defects.* Each of these Passions make out, that every Man either is, or ought to be, of some Consideration; nay, so to be reputed of, as to be above

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above all Injury and Contempt. For seeing we are so easily led to think well of our selves, when perhaps we have very small *Advantage* of our *Neighbors*; certainly it is but just that we carry some Esteem also towards others, so as to treat them with all Officiousness and Candor. Wherefore even *Nature* points out, by these Passions of *Esteem* and *Disesteem*, how we are to exercise Humanity and *good Breeding* towards others; as well as Diligence and Application in getting what is most beneficial to our selves.

V. As to that sort of valuing a Man's self, which *Des Cartes* calls *Generosity*, whereby a Man does, in the Freedom and Sincerity of his Judgment, so account of himself as, while he steadily aims at vertuous things, and wants no Courage to enterprize what Reason dictates, he will endure no sort of Contempt. Doubtless the Use of this Passion (so implanted by Nature) is of highest Preheminence, as it proves a Spur to the procurement of the highest Felicity. For who can be more corroborated against the Scorns of Men, or the Shocks of Fortune, than he who has Conscience on his side, that his Actions have been sincere. *L. 1. c. 11. § 10.*

VI. VENERATION is a Passion complicated of *Admiration* and *Fear*. The Utility thereof is referable to Politick Bodies and Religious Societies: it implies that Obedience is due to Magistrates; and that there is such a Being as God, and such a Government as the Divine Providence.

Disdaining

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Disdaining is made up of *Admiration*, and of *Security*, or *Confidence*. This Passion is not altogether unprofitable to the Peace and Acquiescence of the Mind, inasmuch as it suffers not Virtue or Truth to be abandoned, either on the Threats, or on the Temptations of impotent Men. Such was the Contempt of *Socrates* towards *Anytus* and *Melitus*, when he let them know, *That altho they had Power to kill, they had not the Power to hurt him.*

VII. FOR what concerns the five following *Primitive Passions*, as *Love*, *Hatred*, *Joy*, *Grief*, and *Cupidity*. The Use of these is most manifest. And the first four end always in the Fifth; for whatever falls out grateful, excites Joy or Pleasure; and Pleasure, when felt, draws Love towards that which excited it: And, last of all, *Love* makes *Cupidity*, for the increasing, continuing, and sometimes repeating, of the same Delight.

'Tis in like sort, when any thing happens that is ungrateful, it begets *Sadness* and *Grief*; and this *Grief* again begets *Hatred* for that which was the Cause thereof; and that *Hatred* a *Cupidity* to get free from such Cause. And 'tis in these things alone that the Safety and Preservation of all living Creatures does in a manner consist. Also 'tis worthy of Note, that these Passions which are the most ungrateful, such as *Grief* and *Hatred*, do not perform less of this Duty than the most *grateful*: for that our Life is no less harassed by the Evils that lie upon us, than from the Want of

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of those Benefits which should advantage us.

VIII. It is plain, that Nature seems more solicitous to drive away Evil, than to partake of Pleasure. And this appears in those efficacious sorts of Eloquence, she has bestowed on so many of the Creatures when they are oppressed, for the drawing of Compassion towards them. Such is the querulous and lamenting tone of the Voice, the dejection of the Eyes and Countenance, Groaning, Howling, Sighs, and Tears, and the like. For all these have Power to incline the Mind to Compassion, whether it be to quicken our Help, or to retard the Mischiefs we intended.

IX. Nor is Nature wanting altogether in that part, which concerns the procuring of Pleasure. For every motion of the Eyes and Countenance, when we are pleased, is much more welcome and agreeable to the Lookers on: And even this small Effect of our Joy is by Nature instituted, as a Bait or Allurement, to draw on mutual Complacency, and to create a desire towards the Contentation of each other. Just as those former Effects of Sorrow were to dehort us from afflicting any, who deserved it not, but rather to melt us, and push us on, to a timely succor of all who are oppress'd.

But forasmuch as excessive Joy does sometimes bring on what they call *Extasie*, and even swooning away: I know not if Nature

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Nature does not hint hereby, that our Souls are capable of greater Pleasure, as well as Felicity, than our present corporeal and terrestrial State can bear, or is able to support.

Wherefore as to *Love* and *Hatred*, *Grief* and *Joy*, the *Interpretation* of them is this; That we do, as much as in us lies, purchase Good to our selves and others; Next, that we hurt no Man, but on the contrary drive away Evil most industriously and affectionately from others as well as our selves.

X. All Diligence is animated by *Cupidity*, which is the most *Mercurial* and awakened Passion, and which agitates the Heart with more violence than any other Affection. It sends up a greater quantity of Spirits to the Brain, which diffusing themselves again into the Members of the Body; not only render it more active and more vigorous, but the Soul also is hereby drawn in, and concurs in a grateful and chearful Vivacity. For the Soul, if it want suitable Entertainment or Objects that are worthy of it, is but too apt to rust, and grow *Lethargick*; even as the Lord *Bacon* has somewhere truly admonished, *That the Life of Man, without a proposed End, is altogether loose or languishing.*

However if we would rightly govern, and make use of, this *Cupidity* to good purpose; let us beware, that it fly not to Objects that are without our reach, or more impetuously to those within it, than our Health and the Frailty of our Condition can bear. For to make more

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more haſt after things within our Power, than will conſiſt with our Strength or Ability, is but attempting things that are plainly impoſſible. So that ſuch unadviſed *Cupidity* would end rather in Sorrow and Vexation, than in Contentment.

Laſtly, ſince 'tis ſo manifeſt, what the end of *Cupidity* is; Namely, to excite Vigor in the Execution of our Purpoſes: this Paſſion muſt wholly be laid by, till we are juſt on the Borders of acting what by Counſel we have reſolved. For elſe this Ardor (and eſpecially in weak Conſtitutions) would not only be uſeleſs, but by inflaming the Spirits, would exhauſt our ſtrength, dry the whole Body, and overthrow our Health.

CHAP. IX.

The Uſe and Interpretation of Love and Hatred; which are in the Second Claſſis.

AMONG the Sorts or Species of *Love*, there is principally to be conſidered; not only *Devotion* and *Complacency*, but what the *Greeks* call *Storge* (which is that ſtrong Intercourſe of Filial-Parental Sympathy, that is founded in the Bowels of Nature.) So likewiſe,

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wise, in the sorts of *Hatred*, there is to be observed *Horror* and *Antipathy*.

By *Devotion* we are taught, as by a loud Exhortation of Nature, to believe that there is something which ought to be more dear to us than our selves, and for which we should not scruple to lay down our Lives. The Use therefore of this Passion refers chiefly to *Polity* and *Religion*; neither of which can be without Virtue. So that for the true Use of this Passion we are accountable to our Prince, our Country, and to our Religion: That is to say, unto God and true Virtue. Whence it follows, that those, who place the highest Wisdom in Self-preservation, and as preferable at all times to all other things, do *sin* against the Light of Nature.

II. By *Complacency*, and by *Horror*, we are admonished, that there are some things *Beautiful*, and some *Deformed*; much contrary to the sordid Opinion of those, who laugh at all Distinctions. Nay, their Raillery extends to the placing of this Indifferency, even in *Vice* and Virtue: Whereas Virtue, for the most part, is but a mere Symmetry of the Passions, in reference to their Degrees and Objects. Just as Beauty it self is made up from a due proportion in the external Parts; and then animated by a Decorum in the Motion and Direction of the whole. Which, in a manner, is the same thing that *Tully* noted in the Fourth Book of his *Tusculane Questions*. *For as in the Body*, (says he) *there is a certain* Figura-

Lib. 4.

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Figuration of the Members, with a sweetness of Color. All which we call Beauty; *so in the Mind, an equability and constancy in our Opinions and Judgments, joyned to such a firmity and settledness in them, as we make to be the consequence of, or even the substance of Virtue, this also is declared beautiful.*

Wherefore this Natural Complacency, and Natural Horror, ought to spur us on to the Love of Virtue, and an Aversation to Vice: For one is the most charming, as the othe he most deformed thing in the World.

III. But the more peculiar Intent of that Complacency, which is commonly called Love, efers to the Propagation of Children. Which assion, if it be more importunate than the est, it shews the Care and Anxiety of Nature to preserve and continue the Race of Mankind. And Nature is herein so solicitous, o artificial, and useth such clandestine eans of Negromancy and Prevarication, s if she would rather pass for an Inchaness, or even a Mountebank, than want fficient Allurements to that end. But rasmuch as the Intention of this Ardor is ade so conspicuous (*as before*) we are there- y admonished how far to restrain it, and ith what Circumspection to put all due oundaries thereunto.

IV. Wherefore as this Love has refe- nce to Propagation; so *Storge*, or *Natural enderness*, referreth chiefly to Children that re begot. And if more of the *Storge* ap- ear in Parents, than what is reciprocal; it shews,

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ſhews, this Paſſion is implanted by Nature, as others, to a greater Degree, or a leſs, ſuitable to the Uſe or Want there may be thereof. For there is greater Utility and Need of the Parents Affection towards their Children, than of the Childrens towards the Parent; for theſe excel the other in good Counſel and other Aids: and it more rarely happens that Parents ſtand in need of their Children, than Children of their Parents. From hence alſo we may take Inſtruction how to govern and attemperate this Paſſion; ſo as neither by exceſs of Indulgence to hurt the Living, or by unprofitable Lamentations to over-bewail the Dead.

V. In the laſt place, *Antipathy* (which is a ſort of *Hatred*, tho from Cauſes more occult) is thus far of Uſe, that we are, by ſome private Sentinel, admoniſhed to ſtand off, where Nature has planted between us and any other, an unaccountable Diſſention. But if this happen to be exerciſed againſt a good Man, we are then to ſuſpect our ſelves, and that the Evil lies at our own Door. In which Caſe, we are to contend, if poſſible, to make him our Friend, as venturing or loſing nothing by it, unleſs ſome defect or infirmity of our own.

Chap.

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Chap. X.

The Use and Interpretation of the Passions of the Third Classis, which fall under the Head of Cupidity.

I. THE Kinds and Species of *Cupidity* are, in the First Rank, *Hope*, *Fear*, *Jealousie*, *Security*, and *Despair*: In the next are *Irresolution*, *Animosity*, *Courage*, *Emulation*, *Cowardise*, and *Consternation*.

II. HOPE is compounded of Joy and Cupidity; *Fear* of Cupidity, and somewhat of Grief: For Imagination is, according to *Aristotle*, a sort of a feeble Sense; but 'tis a sense of things present, even as *Grief* and *Joy*. For Events are present to the Mind, altho really not yet happened: And therefore they are both present and absent, and may be as well the Objects of *Joy*, or of *Grief*, as of *Cupidity*.

The Use of *Hope* is to have Delight in acting; and of *Fear* to proceed with Circumspection and Diligence.

III. BUT there is a more especial Use of this last Passion, which referreth to Political Matters: For, seeing the greatest part of Men are wicked; scarce any City could stand, if, by the Dread of Punishment, they were not kept in awe.

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IV. JEALOUSIE is compounded of *Cupidity*, *Sorrow*, and *Estimation*. It's proper Use is found in the Care and Defence of Things, which are of greatest Account. Wherefore to make shew of it upon trivial Occasions, is but mean and ridiculous.

V. IT appears plain, from what has been said, which are the Passions that enter into the Composition of *Security* and *Despair*: since *Security* is nothing else but Hope discharged of all Fear, and *Despair* is Fear destitute of all Hope. The Use of the First is against all Care and Diligence that is superfluous. And the Use of the latter to withdraw the Mind from Designs unlikely to succeed, unto those which are more auspicious, and of easie success.

VI. IRRESOLUTION is compounded of Cupidity and Grief: The Use whereof is to avoid Error in our Choices. For the Vexation, which naturally attends it, does plainly prove, how one thing is much preferable to another; how we are to be extreme watchful in discovering what is the best, and what tends most to the obtaining, and the retaining thereof: and finally, that we propose some such settled Rules and Determinations for the conduct of Life, as are never to be departed from.

VII. ANIMOSITY, and *Courage* are both of them compounded out of Cupidity, Joy and Grief: yet herein the Joy does much exceed the Grief; for that Grief, which arises from

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from danger in the Object, is trampled down by some excellency in the Object, which outweighs the Danger; and Joy takes place, from an assurance of gaining the end. The principal Use of this Passion is, in defending our Prince and Country from their Enemies; or in bearing testimony to Truth with the utmost hazard of this mortal State: that so we may reap either immortal Glory, or Life eternal.

VIII. EMULATION is compounded of Cupidity, Joy and Esteem. The Use and Force hereof is seen in famous Examples of Virtue, unto whose Imitation Nature does by this Passion invite us.

Cowardise, or Pusillanimity, seems to be a compound of Cupidity, Hope, Fear and Esteem; but of these in a very low degree. The principal use of this refers to Objects which are in truth but of a poor Account, whatever some others may think to the contrary.

Consternation is made up from a vast Admiration, Cupidity and Sorrow. And it seems to be a sort of Schooling or Reprehension cast on us by Nature, for abandoning that presence of Mind, with which we ought always to be girded, against the Surprizes and Incursions of ill Fortune. The use and signification hereof is much the same with that of *Irresolution*; that, by well casting of all things before-hand, we may be in full account what is to be done, and what to be suffered, in every case, and how to maintain our selves within the just limits of both.

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IX. It seems further more to intimate and admonish us, that there is in Nature some horrid and stupendous danger, lying hid, and to be expected; which is the proper Object of this Passion, and against which we ought always to be provided. But whether this may be every Man's particular Death, or the Dissolution of the Universe (of which the wisest Men and Philosophers have spoken, as well as Poets,)

Si fractus illabatur Orbis
Impavidos ferient ruinæ.

Were the World's Frame in Ruines laid,
They'd be oppress'd, but not afraid.

'Tis probable, that none will be so well prepared against these Shocks, as those, unto whom Nature her self owes a reward for their true Sincerity and Innocence.

And thus much for the Passions of the Third Classis.

CHAP.

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CHAP. XI.

Interpretation and Use of Joy and Grief, which constitute the Fourth Classis.

THE Passions of this Rank are first, *Derision, Commiseration, Envy, Congra-*; Next, *Satisfaction, Repentance, Re- Conscience*; as also, *Favor, Gratitude, ion, Anger*: Thirdly, *Glory*, and Lastly, *Loathing, Desire*, and *Mirth*.

THE Use of *Derision* is chiefly applied Correction of smaller Faults in the ill rs and Absurdities of human Life.

n this Fountain sprung up *Satyrical* even as from the Effects of Love and ge, came the *Epic* and the *Tragic*. Nor *atyr* so much pursue Vice it self, as it e Circumstances thereof, which are the diculous.

ion is compounded of Joy and Hatred; the Evil, which is the Object of it, on asudden, it produces *Laughter*. But bject of *Laughter*, as *Aristotle* some- observes, must be such a kind of Evil ot deadly, or destructive. And there- is may frequently happen where there ntention of Hatred: For it may fall out only a Congratulation, or sort of

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Gladness, that the Evil was not great; and that it also was quickly, as well as dexterously overcome.

III. In such Cases the Object of *Derision* does good; and in some measure even where the Evil is not overcome. That is to say, where the thing cannot be put into the same state again, and provided that the damage be not very considerable; *For a light Evil may pass for a Good.* For seeing there is such frailty and mutability in matter, and such a propensity thereby to great and unfortunate mutations: *Laughter* seems but as the Voice of Nature, congratulating with it self, that Evils which might have been so heavy, have by the Providence of God, proved to be but light and tolerable Inconveniences. So this being judged a Deliverance, it cannot but end in Mirth. However as to some sad Objects; as to those of Fools and mad Folks; if there be any Man that can please himself with their Absurdities and Ravings, 'tis to be doubted, (and it draws Jealousie on him) he has not reverence enough for a sound Mind. For else such a Spectacle should disquiet him no less, than if he saw the Carcase of any dead Man miserably rent in pieces before him.

IV. Commiseration is made up of Love and Sorrow. The Use hereof is in succoring the distressed, and defending him that has right. For to take away the Life of an innocent Man, is so monstrous a Crime, as rears the very Bowels of Nature, and forces sighs from the Breasts of all Men. *Envy*

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Envy is compounded of Sorrow and Hatred. And the Use thereof refers chiefly to a right Distribution of Rewards and of Honors. For this Passion is not that ill Vice, which all Men so justly reprove; but an excellent Disposition of the Mind given by God. And *Aristotle* calls it *Nemesis*, on the account of a *Just Distribution to every Man*. And in his *Rhetorick* he says, As 'tis the proper Office of a good Man to compassionate those who suffer unjustly; so is he to envy, and to disdain such as prosper without a cause. He adds, *Whatever exceeds Merit, is unjust; whence Indignation, in this behalf, is ever attributed to the Gods.* But this, and that *Envy* which we speak of, is but the same Passion. So that from these two of *Commiseration* and *Envy*, we are admonished, as by the Voice of Nature, that there is a just and an unjust, a right and a wrong; and that the first is to be taken, and the other left. *Lib. 2. c. 9.*

V. CONGRATULATION is composed of Love and Joy. And it may serve as a Spur unto common Beneficence. For to him, who is frequent in this Virtue, there is due from all Men a Congratulation of his Prosperity.

Satisfaction, or *Self-contentedness*, as also *Repentance*, and *Remorse of Conscience*, do all plainly contribute to the preserving a good Conscience. They also manifestly shew, that there is a difference between the Works of good and evil Doers, and that Men are endowed with Free Will. For this *Satisfaction*

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and *Acquiescing*, is tantamount to a joyful Applause, or Acclamation of the Soul, from a Conscience of Well-doing. And certainly such Passion would be altogether vain, and misplaced, if there were not really a right way and a wrong. Tho we must confess, that most Men are most grosly mistaken about the Object of this Passion; and in valuing themselves upon those very Works, for which in Justice they deserve to be defamed.

VI. Of this Madness there is not a greater instance than what *Des Cartes* himself lays in our view, of certain superstitious Hypocrites, who, because they go often to Church, repeat many Prayers, shave their Heads, abstain from some Meats, give Alms, and the like; take themselves to be so very perfect, that whatever is suggested to them by their Passion, sounds like the Voice of Heaven. So that if this Passion suggest the betraying of Towns, killing of Princes, and rooting out whole Nations; they think they have Call enough for it, and even Ground sufficient for such *Executions* and such *Passions*, if other Men but differ from them in Matters of mere Opinion.

De Pass. Anim. part. 3. *Art.* 119.

VII. Now for what relates to *Repentance*. If it were so, that all things are done by *Necessity*, then all Grief upon inward conviction of Sin, would look as ridiculous, as if a Clown should repent that he was not born Noble; or if a Woman should be afflicted that she was not born a Man. The same Reason holds as

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to *Remorse of Conscience*, which plainly shews, that, if we err in our Election, 'tis our own fault, and that it was in our power to have chosen better.

Favor also, and *Indignation*, signifie almost the same: For these Passions grow up in us, as we regard the Actions of Men; some doing right, and some doing wrong.

VIII. But *Gratitude* seems to be a natural or essential part of commutative Justice; even as *Commiseration*, *Envy*, *Favor* and *Indignation*, may be reputed the natural parts of distributive Justice: But *Anger* may take place in this Rank above the rest. For *Revenge* is a high part of that Justice, which calls for Chastisement: and *Aristotle* says, that the *Pythagoreans* did chiefly place this in *Retaliation*. For *Anger* contributes as much towards *Fortitude*, as either *Boldness* or *Animosity*. And it was the saying of *Theages*, *That Anger, and covetous Desire, were so intended for the service of the Soul, as if the first were to be it's Guard, and a sort of Sentinel to the Body; the other a fit Caterer or Steward for things that were of use.* He also compares this latter to a Providore, and the other to a Soldier. For that *Anger* is a Passion compos'd of *Hatred*, of *Cupidity*, and of *Self-love*; and so is directly opposite to *Gratitude*, just as *Indignation* unto *Favor*. And *Des Cartes* observes, that *Anger* exceeds the other three; as the Desire of Repelling what is noxious, and the taking of Revenge, is more vehement upon us than any other thing.

IX.

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IX. Nor ought we to dread this Passion the more, because it is mixed with Hatred. For all the Passions which belong to the *Irascible* Faculty of the Soul are very useful and necessary; seeing it doth more concern us to resist Evil, than to enjoy unnecessary Good. *L. 1. c. 6. § 8.* Wherefore he who disposeth himself to obey the Motions of the *concupiscible* part of his Mind, out of a specious pretence of Peace and of a charitable sweetness which we owe to others, let him have a care, lest at the same time he betrays not the Piety which he owes to God, to his Country, and to the rest of Mankind. For he who altogether lays aside the *Irascibility*, is either false or effeminate, and can never deserve the Character of being what *Theages* calls *An able Guard, and a faithful Champion of Virtue.*

As to *Glory*, and *Modesty*, or *Shame*, they are things of excellent use: For the first spurs on to high Attempts, and the latter so draws us from what is vile, that it may pass as it were for a Cittadel or Bulwark to Virtue. *Glory* is made up of Joy, and Self-estimation; *Modesty*, or *Shame*, of Sorrow, and Self-love, yet also mixed with Self-distrust: so as this Passion does not belong either to the best or worst sort of Men. For whoever is conscious that he does, with a generous Free-Will, devote himself to laudable things, knows also that he deserves not for so doing to fall into Contempt: *L. 1. c. 8. § 5.* And therefore if the Revilers shoot at him, he has Fortitude of Mind to scorn them

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them again. But, on the other side, when wicked Men grow shameless, and become scandal-proof, then are they perfectly dangerous: For *Tully* observed, *That to bear Ignominy without sorrow, was even to arrogate a Commission to do evil.* *Tusculan. Quæst. l. 4.*

XI. WHEREFORE these two Passions of *Shame* and *Glory* are easily understood: For both of them make out, that we must rather abide by the common Opinion of others, than by our own. And this contributes not a little, as well to good Manners, as to our civil Obedience: for we are instructed by this Instinct of Nature, that no particular Man is to violate the Laws, or oppose his single Judgment to the publick. *Aristotle* says, in his *Rhetorick*; *That Law is the publick Sense, and Opinion of the whole People, and made for instruction in all Cases and Events.* And *Cicero*, speaking also of *Modesty*, appeals to that very Shame, which some Pleasures are naturally attended withal: Which, plainly detecting their Vileness, shews that they should be rejected and contemned by Men, who are born to nobler things. *Rhetor. l. 1. cap. 2.*

XII. BUT seeing we are still thus governed by these two Instincts of *Shame* and *Glory*; and yet behold the whole Bulk of the World, how they magnifie that which is debauched and vile: we may from thence presume a time will come, in which Mankind shall live to better purposes, that is, more regularly and correct.

However,

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However as things now go, let us contend, that neither *Shame* on the one hand, or *popular Fame* on the other, seduce or drive us from what is substantially just: For this would utterly subvert the Intention of those Gifts. And therefore in all Actions, let your Appeal be to the Judgment-Seat of a good Conscience; and if we are but well attested from thence, let the Sparks of the World rally on, and the whole Crowd reproach us: For, in such case, 'tis perfect Heroism to despise them both. Furthermore let those take Shame upon them that deserve it; not the Well-doers, nor such as are even content to suffer for doing well. *For Virtue* (as *Tully* saith) *and even Philosophy her self, must be contented with a few Judges. The Mobile was ever spiteful and invidious to both, and therefore both have industriously declin'd all Appeals unto them.* Let us therefore, as he advises us, despise all the Follies of Men, and place the force of living well, in the strength and greatness of our Minds, and in the Contempt of this World: and in a word let us believe it to consist in Truth and Virtue, notwithstanding the vain and mistaken Opinions of a great part of Mankind.

Tuscular. Quæst. l.2. Tuscular. Quæst. l.4.

XIII. LASTLY, as to what concerns *Loathing*, *Mirth*, and *Desire*. The Benefit of Loathing has Reference unto Temperance; for we uſually loath that which we take in excess: And we take notice how much a repeated Use of all corporeal things, turns into loathing at last. Hence we may be admonished

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iſhed to raiſe up our Minds to things intel-ectual, and to place our thoughts upon God.

As for *Mirth*, the Uſe thereof refers to Pa-ience: For we ought to ſuffer Hardſhips the nore willingly, as they will at length be com-enſated with greater Joy. So *Æneas* cheared o his Friends in Diſtreſs,

Durate, & voſmet rebus ſervate ſecundis.

—— Bear up, and patiently endure,
In time our better Fate will bring the Cure.

XIV. DESIRE is compounded of Sorrow, ove, Deſpairir, and Cupidity. The Uſe nd Benefit hereof is, to give an edge to our iligence, in preſerving what we have, ſince e loſs thereof would turn to our Vexation. he Force of this Paſſion is chiefly felt in the ſs of Friends; the Death of thoſe who ex-l in Beauty, or in the Talents of the Mind, who have eminently ſerv'd in their Gene-tion. So *Horace*,

Quis deſiderio ſit Pudor aut Modus *Horat. l. 1. Ode 24.*
Tam chari Capitis? Præcipe lugubres
Cantus, Melpomene, *cui liquidam Pater*
Vocem cum Cithara dedit.

——— Sound out, Melpomene,
And tune thy doleful Melody.
Come, let our Sorrows boundleſs be,
'Twere ſhame to think of Modeſty,
When we muſt weep, great Man, for thee.

XV.

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XV. It was this Passion that, working upon mournful and tender Minds, instructed them in the ways of Funeral Pomp; and by Songs of Lamentation, Elegies, and Orations, to perpetuate the Memory of the Dead. Nay, it brought things to the pitch of Madness at last (worse than Mortality it self) that Temples, Altars, and even Prayers, were consecrated to the Dead: As if those, who but just now ceas'd to be Men, were presently transform'd into Gods. Thus have they branded, by vile Superstition and Idolatry, our mortal State; which was the utmost Abuse this Passion was capable of, or could be imployed unto.

CHAP. XII.

That all Passions (properly so called) are in themselves Good; and that, from a right Interpretation of them, 'tis manifest, there is something Good and Bad in its own Nature, and lastly, to shew what such Nature or Essence of Good and Bad can be.

I. IT appears by what has been said, that not only the Passions we have spoke of, but all the rest of them, which are properly so call'd, are Good. Also that inward Propensi-

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Propensity, and strong Inclinations, are not things of Deliberation and Choice; *But*, as *Theages* says) *the very Streaks and Prints of Nature, where Vertue is implanted in us by a sort of Impulse or Enthusiasm.* And *Aristotle* notes, *That the way of Enthusiasm is to be hurried on to action, without any motives of Reason.* *Magn. Moral. l. 2. cap. 8.*

Wherefore seeing such Propensities are antecedent to all Choice or Deliberation, 'tis manifest they are from Nature and from God; and that therefore whatever they dictate as Good and Just, is really Good and Just: and we are bound to embrace and prosecute the same, not only towards our selves, but towards others; I mean as far as may consist without any injury to a third.

H. FOR this Law of Nature, which bears way in the animal Region, is a sort of confused Muttering, or Whisper of a Divine Law: but indeed the Voice of it is more clear and audible in the intellectual State. And whereas in that inferior Region, the Case is often so uncertain, and so undecided, as to resemble what the *Civilians* call *Casus omissus*; therefore are we obliged frequently to appeal to the Tribunal of Reason, and to consult about Time, Place, and Proportion, and such other Circumstances as our Actions are subjected unto. For Reason has this prehemmence, that it does not only more *distinctly* judge, but more *abstractedly*, than what the Animal Light, or any Law of the Passions, can pretend to. 'Tis more distinct, as it can penetrate *L. 1. c. 6. § 6, 8.*

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penetrate and examine into the Original and Circumstances of Things; whereas Passion is only a blind and determinate Impulse, to do so or so, without knowing any Motive for it. Also 'tis more *abstracted*, and by Nature *separate*. For Reason does not dictate what may be Good for this or that particular Person, but what simply is good or better; and what in such and such Circumstances ought to be more or less preferable.

III. For this is the true Character of every intellectual Faculty (as was noted before) that it cannot stoop, and as it were cringe, to particular Cases; but speaks boldly and definitively what is true and good unto all. And hence 'tis plain, that whatever is Intellectual and truely Moral, is also Divine, and partakes of God. And this made *Aristotle* style the Divinity, *A Law that looked round, and had the same uniform Aspect towards every side.*

IV. How unadvised therefore have some been to say, *every thing was lawful, that Passion did persuade*; and to style this a sort of Divine and Intellectual Documents, and, while taken abstractedly, and in the general, to contend for it, as a very principal Rule of human Actions: whereas none, but such as are mere Slaves unto Passion, can ever think at this Rate. This has been hatched under the Wings of Appetite, not of Reason: For to establish such a Doctrine of human Actions, as must subvert all Actions, is quite irrational.

V.

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V. Would it not from such a Principle follow, that every Man might, at his Pleasure, not only fire his own House in the Night, but the Town also? Might he not poison the common Well, or maim and destroy his Wife and Children, if it were lawful to sacrifice to his own Passion? So that this Foundation being against Nature, and utterly pernicious, it plainly follows, that no Man's private Inclinations are the Measures of Good and Evil; but that the Inclinations themselves are to be circumscribed by some Principle which is superior to them.

VI. Now the next Principle, unto which Passion is subjected, and which knows what in every Case is good and bad, is *right Reason*: And therefore that which to Right Reason appears good or bad, ought certainly to be reputed as such in its own Nature. For what a rectified Mind takes in, is really the Essence of the thing it self, painted in the Understanding: and so a Triangle, in its own Nature, is nothing else but what Right Reason conceives to be such.

VII. Hence it plainly follows, that there are some unchangeable Ideas or Impressions of Good and Evil, even as of Figures in the Mathematicks; and that the Mind judges of those, as much as Sense does of these: Yet Reason and the Intellect have Jurisdiction over both. For as those are made up by the Concurrence of several Lines; so are these made up of various and often contrary Circumstances;

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cumstances; which therefore denominate some things to be Good, and some things to be Evil. And this confirms what has been said, that the Principle, whereby to judge what is either morally good or evil, is an Intellectual Principle, and in some sort Divine.

VIII. THIS hinders not, but that we must allow there is something also, little less than Divine, which presides in the Animal Law (for this Law has also its Source from Nature, and from God the Parent of Nature) so that we may evermore follow the Indications and Dictates of that Law; unless in such Cases, where Reason admonisheth that something may be done, that is better and more advantageous. And if this one point be but granted (which no reasonable Man will deny) you will presently find numberless Instances of those things, which in their own Nature may be termed just or unjust, vile or honest; which, by reflecting on those principal signs of the Passions already mention'd, will occur unto you. For surely those things are, in their own Nature just, or unjust, vile or honest, which the Voice of God in Nature has declared to be such. And this Corollary is of high value in human Life, and able to trample upon the Impudence of those, who cry up all things for lawful, which they themselves think fit.

L. 1. *c.* 6. § 8.

IX. NEVERTHELESS we do not pretend, in the least, to have the Passions of the Mind exterminated. We rather account of them (which

L. 1. *c.* 6. § 2.

L. 1. *c.* 6. § 16.

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which before was noted) as of the very Organs of the Body, and as distinctly useful: since they are not only the occasion of several Virtues, but the true Characters and Images of Virtue, are made the more resplendent by them. Wherefore if we can but skill our Passions aright, *They are as Lamps or Beacons, to conduct and excite us to our Journey's end.* For tho Reason may cry aloud; yet we walk without Legs, and fly without Wings, if we are not quickened by their Instigations. Hence we may reflect, that *Theagis* was not so much out of the way in saying, *That Virtue had its original from the Passions, and did associate with them, and was preserved by them.* For the principal part of Virtue is placed in their due Commixtures. *So as no man* (he says) *ought either to be void of Passion, or too highly excited by it. For as Insensibility lays a damp on that Torrent and Enthusiasm of the Soul, by which 'tis push'd forward towards things which are noble and great: so too much emotion discomposes the Mind, and the Understanding is damnified by it.* L. 1. c. 6 § 11.

X. WHEREFORE let us close all with the Counsel of *Archytas* the *Pythagorean*. *Contend* (says he) *to procure the Use of your Passions in such Moderation, as you may equally shun to appear insensible, or in too high an Agitation: for this often leads to grander Attempts than our weak Nature can support.* Surely this Temperament sounds better than what the *Stoicks*, and even some *Platonists*, do present us with.

And let it never be forgot, that we are no longer to retain our Passions, than as they administer to those ends, for which by Nature they are intended.

And thus much of the Passions, which are properly styled such.

CHAP. XIII.

Of the other Passions, or Bodily Impressions.

I. FOR what concerns the Residue of *Corporeal Impressions*, the kinds thereof may, in a manner, be referred to these two Classes. Namely, to

1. *Sensation, Imagination, the particular Temperaments of the Body, and to Custom.*
2. Or to *Education, to a singular Genius, or to a particular Fancy.*

The Impressions of the *first Class* agree in this, that they appear without any *Appetite* properly so called. But those of the second are attended with some *proper Appetite*.

By *Sensation* is here meant, not the very *Act of Feeling*, which is the true meaning of the Word; but rather a *Stain*, or that *perverse Byass* and *Propensity to erre*, which is imprints on the Soul. And so almost of all the rest.

II. WHEREFORE *Sensation* is defin'd, *To be a certain corporeal Impression, by which the Soul is prevailed on to believe, that things are such in their own Natures, as they appear to our external Senses.* As if a man, finding somewhat that was grateful to his own Taste, should

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ould ſtraight conclude, that the ſame Plea-ure and Sweetneſs were in the thing it ſelf; nd therefore that it muſt equally gratifie the Taſte of all other Creatures. We ſee the ame Fallacy obtruded in the Objects of Sight; hen a Man ſhall conclude, that the Light nd Colors, which are taken in by the Eye, re alſo in the things themſelves: which is no ore true than that Stones feel pain, which round the bare Feet of thoſe that run over iem; or that, when a Man's Hand is burnt y a Coal, that the Coal alſo ſhould have ſenſe f ſuch Burning. For 'tis plain, that *Heat* is o more in the Coal, or in any ſuch Subject, an is the very Pain; but both ariſe from the *gitation* and *Concuſſion of Particles:* So as if iis be very moderate, we feel Heat without ny Pain; whereas if our Senſes are immo-erately ſtruck, then follows Perception both f *Heat* and *Pain* together. Wherefore Heat nd Pain are things which differ only in de-ree; and we our ſelves are the Subject in hich they meet, and wherein their Force nd Vigor is exerted. And the like we may ronounce of other the Objects of our exter-al Senſes.

III. IMAGINATION *is a corporeal Im-eſſion, which inclines the Soul to believe, that ich things are, or elſe may be; which yet never re, nor can ever be.*

As *Senſation* is apt to miſguide the Soul, ouching the Nature of Things, unleſs care be aken: ſo *Imagination* does the like as to their

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Existence, whether present, or to come. For as the vigor of our Sense throws us into Security, as to the real presence and existence of any thing; so the torrent of *Imagination*, which seems to equal, or at least to imitate Sense it self, does easily impose a false Assurance on the Soul, that such thing is true, or may be true; tho there be no other Foundation for it, but that it has been vehemently so imagined. How these insolent *Phantasms*, and such idle Dreams, of Men who sleep not, may be detected and dispelled, we have taught at large in our Book of *Enthusiasm*: to which the Reader is referr'd.

Sect. 51, §2,53, *&c.*

IV. As to the peculiar *Temperament* and *Constitution*; we define it to be, *A corporeal Impression that results from the whole natural Mass; by which the Soul is obstructed and perverted from the Contemplation of some peculiar Things.* Of this corporeal Frailty there might be many Instances given. We have seen how happy, and even famous, some have been at the *Mathematicks*; who, when you turn them to things *Theological*, or into the *Metaphysicks*, they are quite lame, and stumble at every step. They will avow they perfectly comprehend whatever concerns the Nature of a *Body*, but as to that of a *Spirit*, they cannot figure to themselves the least Notion or Signification of it. On the other side, you have others, who are so full of their Notion about *Spirits*, that they believe not a corner of the World to be void or destitute of them. They think they are present

present at every Thunder and every Rain; and they have mustered and regimented them into such Brigades; that it would make a Man sweat to comprehend the Government and Intrigues that they impute unto this invisible Race.

V. I Know not well how otherwise to judge of this *Disease in the Art of Thinking*, than that it grows from a particular Texture of Parts or a *prevalent Byas* in the Frame and Constitution of the Body. In some the Spirits are more stiff, gross and tenacious; in others more volatile, unequal, and even turbulent. So that if a Man had it in his Power (in the Language of the *Chymists*) to *fix the volatile*, and to *volatilize the fix'd*, (by which they promise themselves Golden Mountains.) I mean if he could bring his Spirits to a just proportion of Delicacy and Agility, and could then so totally control their Motion, as to fix and settle them in the Contemplation of any particular Object, he were then certainly Master of the greatest Secret in the World, towards the Knowledge and Contemplation of all Things.

VI. Custom *is a corporeal Impression, by which the Soul is extremely bent to judge of things, as true, good, or amiable; for no other Motive, but because it has been accustomed so to judge, and so to act.* There is an Instance of this Depravity in the *Cannibals*, who eat Man's Flesh without any Ceremony or sort of Qualm whatever. And the Power of *Custom*

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is so very strong (as *Tully* observes it from *Aristotle*) that it becomes a *second Nature*. Hence it is, that some inveterate Opinions usurp among Mankind the Name of Principles, or common Notions; and a very ill *Custom of the Country*, passes for *a Law of Nature*. How pernicious a *Fate* therefore is it, when young Men happen to be thus handled? How cautious ought all to be of any false or immoral Custom? And how much does it import us to fly the Society of those, who are over-run with any Habit, either of ill Notions, or ill Manners? *'Tis not to be imagined how a little Familiarity and Conversation with an ingenious Libertine, will insensibly steal away that Sense of Honor, and of Virtue, which we first brought with us, when we fell into his acquaintance.*

VII. EDUCATION *is Custom, with some remarkable Affections annex'd.* For commonly *Teachers* do instil their own Notions also, into the Esteem of their Disciples, as if it highly imported them to the perfecting of their Education. And so it comes often to pass, that the Scholars will not afterwards endure the Correction of some insufferable Errors, but persist and die in them. Happy had it been for such, had they never had any other Tutor than bare Nature: for then the Sparks of Virtue, and of Truth, which were in their tender Minds, had not been (as now by the Perfidy of an ill Master) extinguish'd. *Tully* takes

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takes occasion (*in his Tusculan Questions*) highly to exclaim hereat; affirming, *That we are born with such Elements of Vertue as if they were not depress'd, even Nature it self would instigate us to a happy life.* Whereas now we are perverted as soon as born; and our Minds so scribled over with crooked Sentiments, as if they had been even mingled with our Milk. But this Misfortune is so little rectified in riper time by Instructors and Teachers, that Truth is laugh'd out of Countenance, vulgar Errors take place; and even Nature is subdu'd by Opinion. Tusc. Quæst. l. 3.

VIII. As *Education* has Reference unto *Custom*: *so a peculiar Genius or Inclination hath reference to a particular temperament of the Body, and is a corporeal Impression by which a Man is so endowed, and so appropriated to certain ends, that he conceives all humane Happiness and Perfection to consist therein; and that all are either miserable, or much to be pitied, who are defective in that particular.* Thus it comes to pass, that whether in *Oratory*, or in *Musick*, or in *War*, *Politicks*, *Poetry*, *Philosophy*, *Geometry*, or *Languages*, he that lays hold by a *peculiar Genius* on one of them alone, shall be so intoxicated, as to despise every Man that is addicted to any of the rest. But this surely is a *Sickness of the Mind*, and wholly *Pedantick*; since every other *Genius* is equally happy, in the different Objects that delight and entertain him.

IX.

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IX. WHEREFORE we ought to applaud in every Man what is either useful, or but honestly pleasant. And, as to our selves, let not any Excellency we attain to, lead us to despise other excellent things: for this would be as a Judgment on us; and to be imprison'd, as it were, in our own Tower; when by one degree of Knowledge we are blinded and excluded from all the rest. There is no Man can truly be happy, but he that has attained to share in that, which must make every Man happy. So that this does not properly appertain to the *Genius* we speak of; unless a Man be so fortunately born, as to have his Genius set wholly upon Virtue. But if this be the Case, then indeed 'tis no more a Confinement or Captivity, but the most amiable, and the most extended Liberty in the World.

X. There are also Inclinations of this sort, peculiar as well to the different *Ages* of Mankind, as to the different Objects of Life; and wherein Men bewray the impotence of the Mind; but they are too many to be here numbered up.

XI. PECULIAR *Fancy is a corporeal Impression, whereby the Mind is carried to love or hate, to value or despise any Thing, or any Person, for some external and very trivial Circumstances.*

This is not such a Preference, or Rejection, as comes from any antecedent Passion; but rather a Consequence, and that which from such Impression does ensue. 'Tis not that we hereby

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hereby tax the Wisdom of those Ancients, and of the *Pythagoreans* in particular; who (as *Gellius* relates) did from the Mien, Gesture, and whole Air of the Body, penetrate into the Manners of Men: For this is no idle Speculation, since few Men can conceal their natural Propensities from a curious and diligent Inspector. But the Fault we accuse, is, when Men run headlong to love, or hate, such a thing or such a person, not for any natural Perfection or Imperfection; but so slightly and superficially; that often, upon the bare sound of a Name, we see some passionately inclin'd to one Man more than to another; so that as well Persons as Things are often, upon no better Arguments, either valu'd or despis'd. But alas, how much is the Frailty, the Mutability, and the impotent temper of Man's Soul detected hereby?

Noctes Atticæ, lib. 1. c. 9.

XII. Some will say, that these Observations are too minute; but if they contribute to the making a better Judgment on all things, and such as a good and prudent Man is bound to do, I think the Labor will not be wholly lost.

THE

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THE SECOND BOOK

CHAP. I.

Of the Number of the Primitive Virtues.

I. WE have hitherto ſpoken of *Virtue in general*; of *the Paſſions*, and of the reſt of the *Corporeal Impreſſions*.

Now follow the *Virtues* in their *kinds*; and theſe are even, as was ſaid of the *Paſſions*, ſome of them *Primitive*, and others by *Derivation*. Of the firſt ſort there are theſe three, *Prudence*, *Sincerity*, and *Patience*; which do, in ſome ſort, anſwer and ſucceed to the three *Primitive Paſſions*, ſo as either to perfect or to correct them: Thus *Prudence* ſtands in balance to *Admiration*; *Sincerity* to *Concupiſcence*, and *Patience* to *Fury*.

And that it may not appear we have caſually fallen into this Triplicity of Virtue; but that Nature and Right Reaſon have inſtructed us therein, 'twill not be amiſs to expoſe how far the Ancients have beaten the ſame Path. They have frequently pointed at this

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his very Summary of Duties, or of Virtues, ho perhaps not in the very Terms: Yet, while hey concur in the Substance, it goes a great vay to shew, that this threefold Division is ccording to Nature.

II. METOPUS, the *Pythagorean*, intimates hree Virtues from the three parts of the Mind: the first *Rational*; the next *Irascible*: *Which he makes as a Buckler or Defence against hose things, which may more nearly hurt us.* he third he calls the *Appetitive*, or *Concu-scible.* And his Words in the beginning of hat Fragment, are thus, *All Vertue must have ese three things: First, Reason. Secondly, rength or Vigor. And thirdly, Appetite or E-ction, Reason to judge by; Vigor to resist and ercome; and Appetite for Love and Enjoyment.* o these three do plainly conform to our laid *imitive Virtues.*

III. THEAGES also divides them into the ne parts. And adds, *That Prudence is a Vir-e of the rational part of the Soul, as Fortitude of the Irascible. For the Habit of Resisting, of submitting to Evil, depends on this latter.* nd therefore we term this *Patience, which is a rtue that sustains and conforms to whatever is ewous or ungrateful.* But instead of *Tempe-nce*, which is a Virtue *derivative*, and but *rticular*, we substitute *Sincerity*; as being a re and original Virtue, and of the *Appeti-ve* Soul; such as by whose Power we are led that which is simply and absolutely the st, and that purely for its own Considera-n.

IV.

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IV. So what *Theages* says elsewhere, has a more evident reference hereto. As namely, *That the Principles of all Vertue were Knowledge, Power, and Appetition: That by Knowledge we consider things and determine; that Power enables us by bodily Force to bear up and sustain our selves in all Accidents that happen; and that Appetition was as the Hand of the Soul, which is thrown out to catch at this or that Object as occasion serves.* To which triple Use of the Faculties, our *Triumvirate* of Virtues; namely, *Prudence, Sincerity,* and *Patience,* do most exactly conform.

V. So again *Marcus Aurelius* makes frequently the same Enumeration, and says in his Meditations; *That Philosophy consists of three Virtues: Namely, first to preserve the Soul (which he calls our Domestick God) clear and unspotted from all carnal Temptations; so as neither to be subdued by Pleasure, nor by Pains.* Anon. this is that true *Patience* which comprehends both *Continence* and *Long-suffering.* Next he advises, *That nothing be rashly done:* Which is the plain Office of *Prudence.* And lastly, to be free from all *Hypocrisie* and *Dissimulation.* Which is the part of *Sincerity.*

Marcus Anton. l. 2. § 17.

VI. Again, in his seventh Book, *That it was a fundamental Duty to bear an innate Love to Mankind,* that is, *to relish whatever contributed to the more regular Administration of the World:* Which as he often shews, is nothing else than frankly and entirely to pursue, not what refers to a Man's private Interest, but what tends most to the

Sect. 55.

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he general Laws of Nature, and of Reason, nd what is purely and eminently the best. For his temper of Mind (as he has it elsewhere) *s the true giving up a Man's self in Sacrifice o Reason, and to God*; which is the Heighth of *incerity.* Next he requires, *That we never ield to corporeal Affections*; and this takes in *'atience.* Lastly, *Not to precipitate our selves n any thing, lest Error ensue*; which is the Dictate of *Prudence.* The same Philosopher as much more, up and down, to the like ffect. *Lib.* 8. § 26.

VII. But particularly in his tenth Book he ecommends three things, which much con- ern the Virtues in hand. As namely, *Inten- ion of Mind*, which answers *Prudence*: *Con- ntment* and *Extension of the Mind*, which re- r to *Sincerity and Patience.* For to say, the *Mind* is *intent*, is to say, it *dwells sedately on s Object, and accurately sifts into every part hereof*: which is the Business of *Prudence.* And for *Sincerity* and *Patience*, how can they etter be let off than *by placing the Mind in a ate of Content? For this testifies a thankful, umble Acceptance of what Nature, in her com- on Distribution, hath given, whatever the ortion be.* And thus to acquiesce in Nature's ommon Law, is, in the Judgment of that riest Philosopher, *To obey the common Reason, hat is in God*; *nay, which is little less than God imself. For he is the living Law, in whose Ad- ninistration the whole Universe remains; and he vho bestows on every Man, what he, in his Wisdom thinks fit and competent for him.* VIII. *Sect.* 8. *Marcus Anton. lib.* 10. § 25.

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VIII. So then he that chearfully accepts and values, not what to his Sense or Fancy might be more complacent, but what Providence thinks fit to order and impose (as indeed some things are sent, which, altho not altogether unwholsom, yet unto Flesh and Blood their Taste is extreme bitter) this Man is, by *Antoninus* cry'd up, *As one that sincerely cooperates with that intellectual Power,* L. 8. § 52. *which guides and comprehends all things.* He adds, *That the World is one and the same in* L. 7. § 9. *every part; that God is every where the same; that there is but one Essence, and one Law, which is the common standard and measure of all intellectual Beings; that there is one Truth, as also one Perfection of all Animals of the same kind: and but one and the same Reason among all the Creatures that partake thereof.*

IX. Thus it is plainly his Sense, that one common Rule and Constitution runs through every intellectual Substance; and that rational Creatures are, in this way, made *a sort of Fellow-Citizens with God*; and that nothing L. 2. c. 4. § 4. can degrade them, but a perverse Will against that Bond and Sanction, by which they hold this State. Whereas if they resign to every thing which the Divine Law, and immutable Reasons, lays on them; and do not so much as covet that things should be otherwise than as they are: *Such* (says he) *are not to be* *Marcus Antonin.* l. 12. § 23. *reputed as bare Conformers, who submit and acquiesce, but as Men who are drawn, if not caught up, by God himself.* For they think

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s he would have them, and they have no ther Will, but the Will of their Creator. This therefore is the ſupremeſt Degree of *incerity*: For this is not only the purſuit of hat is eminently the beſt, but a thirſting nd panting after it for it's own ſake, and for 's intrinſick worth.

X. LASTLY, he adviſes, *That we corroborate* L. 10. § 8. *r Minds to ſuch a degree, as to repel not* 10. *ly the charming, but the rugged Aſſaults the Fleſh; alſo to be above Vain-Glory, d even Death it ſelf.* This ſurely is enough, hereby to know what *Patience* is: and 'tis by is Virtue of Patience, that we ſurmount the emptations of either Hand, whether they e ſoft or harſh. Now if it come to this; that either Infamy nor Death can otherwiſe be un'd, than in ſubmitting to what is vile and ntrary to the Laws of Reaſon; we muſt and our ground, and with Patience congra- late them both. Upon the whole matter, e did not inconſiderately ſet down *Prudence*, *ncerity*, and *Patience*, to be the firſt Foun- ins of all other Virtues. And this will be rther manifeſt, when we ſhall, with a little ore Accuracy, conſider and define the Na- re of each.

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Chap. II.

Of Prudence, the first Primitive Virtue.

I. Prudence *therefore is a Virtue, by which the Soul has such Dominion over the Passions properly so called, as well as over all sorts of corporeal Impressions, that the mind can receive no Impediment thereby, in rightly observing, and successfully judging of what is absolutely and simply the best.*

The Demonstration of this Virtue is made out by *Noema* the Twelfth. Hence therefore it is that *Prudence* is attended and surrounded by *Knowledge*, *Diligence*, *good Counsel*, *equal Determination*, *judicious Conjecture*, *Presence of Mind*, *Sense*, *and the Limits of Right Reason*. Of which in particular. For

II. Knowledge, or *Intelligence*, is the Companion of *Prudence*; because knowing is nothing else but a right comprehension of those things, whereof we are by others admonished. So *Aristotle* observes, *That 'tis by Prudence we apprehend, but by Knowledge that we judge and determine: so Men are call'd intelligent, only from their Facility of being taught.* Wherefore we may agree, that *prudent Men* are also the most *intellegent*: For as they still keep an open Ear to good Counsel, and are not given up to the Prejudice of any Passion, or

Eudem. l. 5. c. 10.

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or corporeal Impression; so are they qualified by this Temperament, still to embrace Truth where-ever they find it.

III. DILIGENCE (as is noted by *Aristotle*) shines most in the finding out of fit Mediums, and of applying them to the Mark: But if the Design be ill, then is a Man not termed *diligent*, but *shrewd* or *busie*. Wherefore it seems there is some Sagacity and subtilty of the Wit, required in *Diligence*, which the prudent Man can scarce ever want: For, having both Mind and Body purified, as he hath, from the stains of Passion or Impression, he has also a stock of subtil and lively Spirits always attending him. *Ethic. Nicom. l. 6. c. 13.*

Where this *Diligence* presides, there happy Counsel can never be wanting; For as the Philosopher places *Rectitude of Counsel in advising that which is good*; so the Essentials wherein are, that the Ends be honest, that the Means be lawful, and that the Consultation be neither slow nor precipitate. And all these things meet in a prudent Man; as by the Definition of *Prudence* is manifest. So also *Antoninus* observes, *That the prudent Man, being Master of his Affections, will never rashly break out*: That, being assisted by a Purity in his Blood and Spirits, he has no Motions that are either sluggish or violent (for 'tis observ'd, that the Fluency and Purification of the Spirits does not a little conduce both to their Gentleness and Moderation:) Much less (says he) will such a prudent Man attempt *Ethic. Eudem. l. 5. c. 9. & ad Nicom. l. 6. c. 10.*

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either things dishoneſt, or even the moſt honeſt ones, if the Means be diſhonorable. For nothing of this ſort can happen, but when Paſſion and Appetite carry all before them.

IV. EQUAL *Determination* is very cloſe of kin to Prudence; *and is as the ſentence given upon Pleadings of Right:* For who can better be qualified to determine about what is Right, and what is Good, than he who is not only above Paſſion, but ſuperior to every Impreſſion and to every Cuſtom (how inveterate ſoever) that were but capable to miſguide him.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 6. c. 11.

For what concerns *Rectitude of Conjecture*, 'tis plain, that, ſince *Ariſtotle* makes Moral Vertue nothing elſe but, *A fit Habit of pointing or aiming at that juſt Medium which, in acting and in ſuffering, is to be wiſh'd for:* Who but the prudent can rightly calculate that Point? For he is Lord of his Paſſions, and his Spirits are ſo purged and defecated from the Lee, as he not only gets Preſence of Mind thereby, but even a ſort of Divination. 'Tis the ſame Philoſopher notes, that *Right Conjecture* is ſuch an Eruption of the Wit, and flies ſo ſuddenly to the Mark, as there is neither Deliberation or Reaſon imploy'd therein. But where any groſs Paſſions happen to intervene, they make a perfect Gulph between the Mind and Truth: And therefore this Pitch of Sagacity is not attainable, but by the prudent Man. 'Tis likewiſe as true of thoſe who are imprudent, that for what concerns the Senſe of Diſcrimination they have it not.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 2. c. 9.

Eudem. l. 5. c. 9.

V.

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V. The Philosopher, speaking about the estitude of Conjecture, styles it *Sense*; Inmuch as whatever *Judgment* we make, *'tis llected from Particulars, and from Sense*: As asserts in the Case of Anger, Grief, and e rest. *Ethic. Nicom. l. 2. c. 9.*

The same he also repeats in his *Great Mols* (which before was hinted) saying, *hat, if you have not within your self a Sense d Feeling of these Matters, all your Labor af- them is but in vain.* This the *Pythagoreans* o called *quick and perfect Sensation*; saying, *ere was a sort of Feeling in our practical Inlect, by which it came to pass that we were neier deceived in the sense of what we suffered, r impos'd on by ill reasoning in what we were act.* *L. 1. c. 2. § 9.* *Iamblici, protrept. c. 2.*

Thus therefore, by subjecting of our Passis, and the purifying of our Bodies and Souls, ere springs up to us, as it were, a new *Senility* in the Mind or Spirit, which is only the ortion of the *prudent Man.* For in the ower thereof he finds out, and ascertains at *Golden Mean* which we have hitherto so commended. That which in every Action is valuable, and whereof the *indiscreet* or the npure Man can never have any Feeling.

VI. Lastly, the *limiting and defining of ight Reason* is every where left, by *Aristotle*, the *prudent Man's* Determination. For henever the Question is started by him, hat this Right Reason should be; he ever efers it thus, *Prout vir prudens definiverit*; *'Tis*

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even what a prudent Man shall judge fit. And surely this is not said in vain, if but applied to the Man we speak of. For how can there be *Right Reason* at all, if not found within the reach of that Prudence which already we have defin'd? And therefore if neither the *Pythagoreans*, the *Platonists*, or *Aristotle* himself, have taken much care in the defining of *Right Reason*, 'tis because they finally referr'd it to the Arbitrement of this our Rectified and Prudent Man. For they all presum'd, that the Mind of Man, when effectually purg'd from the Stains of Prejudice and Passion, did as naturally discern of things which were just and true, as an unblemish'd Eye does rightfully distinguish of Colors. So that *Aristotle* was well advised in pronouncing *Right Reason to be that which was conformable to Prudence*; taking *Prudence* in that Latitude we have already set forth.

Ethic. Eudem. l. 5. c. 13.

VII. From all that is now said, two things deserve Observation. First, how haughtily, and yet very impertinently, do some *Men* carry it, who while they are destitute of all Capacity to judge (as being unacquainted with this *Moral Prudence*) yet are they so far from subscribing to what the wise and prudent Men, of all Ages, and of every Nation, have established for true and just, that they impudently contend there is nothing in its own Nature is either the one or the other, nothing right and nothing wrong. But surely, this is not less absurd, than if a blind Man should deny all distinction

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distinction of Colors, when he ought rather to enquire before all other things, what were good for his Eyes.

VIII. Next we may note, that *Prudence* is not any particular Science of external things, but rather somewhat above all Science. 'Tis a Skill or Sagacity in the Soul, whereby she steers so clear from those Rocks, which corporeal Passions and Impressions throw commonly in the way, as never to fail of making a true and substantial Judgment in all things. And this is the Gift and Excellency which is peculiar unto *Prudence*, and which attends her in all her ways. But as to the knowledge and sense of things, all this and what appertains thereto we derive it from other Fountains; as either from Experience, or Natural Philosophy, or from Skill in War, or in the Laws, and the like. And hereunto *Aristotle* somewhere refers, in saying, *That the prudent Man had not regard to this or that particular thing, but to those which, in a more general way, appertain'd to the Good of Life.* So that *Prudence* is a sort of general Perfection *of the rational part of the Soul*, even as *Sincerity* is of the *Appetitive*: which from the *Pythagorean* Fragments we had noted before.

Ethic. Eudem. l. 5. c. 5. Ad Nicom. l. 6. c. 5.

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Chap. III.

Of the other two Primitive Virtues, Sincerity and Patience.

I. Sincerity *is a Virtue of the Soul, by which the Will is intirely and sincerely carried on to that which the Mind judgeth to be absolutely and simply the best.* When I say *intirely* and *sincerely*, I mean *perfectly* and *adequately*. For what is done *perfectly* is (according to *Antoninus*) *done with the whole Soul, as well in acting justly, as in speaking of truth.* And the Meaning of *Adequate* is that no By-consideration, whether of Profit or of Fame, must ever incline us. For the Soul ought so to be temper'd and inflam'd to that which is simply the best, as neither from Hurt or Ignominy to be diverted from it. *For to be oppress'd in a good Cause, is better than base Exemption.* As *Tully* does assert.

Lib. 12. § 29.

The Nature of this Virtue is explain'd in *Noema* the third, fourth, fifth, and so on to the thirteenth: But the true Beauty and Perfection thereof can hardly enter into the Imagination of any Man, who is not already affected and acquainted with it. And 'tis to a Soul thus rectified, that we may apply that of *Aristotle, That neither the Evening nor the Morning Star is half so charming.* There can be

L. I. *c.* 2. § 9.

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be no exterior Light half so bright, or so desirable, as this of the Soul, which is pure, and perfect, and even Divine.

II. To this State of *Simplicity* or *Sincerity* in the *Soul*, is referable that of *Antoninus*, where he thus expostulates with himself —— *O my beloved Soul, when wilt thou be naked, simple, and entirely one?* And again he gives himself the Rule, —— *Do not discompose thy Mind, or excite the Dregs; but purifie thy self to the utmost that is possible.* L. 10. § 1. L. 4. § 26.

For this *Sincerity* is a Fountain that runs clear, and is perennial; it pours in Consolation, and fills the Life with internal Joy. This is the state of that Peace, which is so constant and ineffable, that no Cares, no Crosses, or so much as Jealousies, can distract it. For in that which is single, and but one, there can be no Diversity: 'tis all Union, profound Love, and perfect Rest. Wherefore it was not without cause, that the *Pythagorean* call'd those blessed, who could by this happy *Analysis, resolve all things into one and the same Principle*; which they plainly meant to be the Unity of God: and did accordingly bind themselves *both to follow and to obey him.* *Jamblicus Protrept. c. 4.*

III. But to *follow God* constantly and sincerely, is to follow that which is eminently the best; tho not that which is most grateful to our Appetites. For who, as a mere Creature, can sincerely and constantly prosecute that which is best? This must be the Gift of God, and the Effect of a Divine Sense or Spirit.

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Spirit. That Perfection does not originally appertain to any created Being, but to God the Creator: He, who is the common Father of us all, and the Legiſlator of the whole World: He, whom *Zeno* in *Laertius* ſtyles, *Right Reaſon penetrating all things; even the ſame Reaſon which is in* Jove *himſelf, the Captain and chief Pilot in the Adminiſtration of the Univerſe.*

L. 8. § 54. IV. HERETO refers that Exhortation of *Antoninus, That we ſhould not any longer perplex our ſelves barely about the circumambient Air; but rather join and combine with that intellectual Power, which comprehends the Univerſe.* Which ſaying amounts to this, *That we ought to be drawn into one and the ſame mind with God.* This is the Paſſion that can only make a Man Divine; *For ſuch the Man is, as his Affections and Inclinations make him.* 'Tis not here enough to have ſimple Intellection; no, it rather calls up and ſummons the *Boniform Faculty*, which is repleniſh'd with that Divine Senſe and Reliſh, which affords the higheſt Pleaſure, the chiefeſt Beauty, and the utmoſt Perfection to the Soul. 'Tis by this ſupreme Faculty that we pant after God, that we adhere unto him, and that (as far as our Nature does admit) we are even like unto him: he, who is Goodneſs it ſelf, perfect Purity, and the moſt exalted Simplicity; he is that pattern whom in theſe Attributes we are to imitate; and this is that ſtate of *Sincerity* we are to aſpire to, as far as Humanity will permit.

Tuſculan. Quæſt. l. 5.

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mit. And as in doing hereof the higheſt Perfection of Man's Will is beſt expreſs'd; ſo in the ſtate of *Patience* is there exerciſed that great Faculty, which the *Pythagoreans* have ſtyled, *The Strength and Bulwark of the Soul.*

V. PATIENCE *is a Vertue of the Soul, whereby 'tis enabled, for the ſake of that which is ſimply and abſolutely the beſt, to undergo all things; even that which, to the animal Nature, is totally harſh and ungrateful.*

We do not by *Patience* underſtand a bare paſſive and ſtupid Indolence; but a vigorous and poſitive Firmity of the Mind: ſuch as was before noted from *Metopus* the *Pythagorean*; *And ſuch as ſhrinks not from rugged and dangerous occaſions,* but bears up boldly and invincibly againſt all; ſo as 'tis not in the power of any Mortification whatever to turn the Will from the purſuit of that which is beſt.

VI. OF *Patience* there are two Parts or Species, which are *Continence,* and *Long-ſuffering.* We mean hereby, not thoſe *Demi-Vertues,* which are ſpoken of in the Schools of *Pythagoras* and *Ariſtotle,* but Vertues that are complete. *Continence therefore is that part or ſpecies of Patience, whereby the Soul does, on account of that which is ſimply the beſt, both eaſily and conſtantly endure whatever Grief or Moleſtation can ariſe by denying the ſenſual Appetite thoſe things, which would otherwiſe be grateful to it.*

Suffering is that ſpecies or part of Patience, whereby the Soul does in like manner, for the ſake of

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of that which is ſimply and abſolutely the beſt, both eaſily and conſtantly endure whatever is harſh and vexatious unto our natural Life.

VII. THE Demonſtration of theſe Virtues will be found in the *Noemas*, fifth, ſixth, ſeventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh: But the uſe of them is of ſuch extent, as to reach to almoſt all Virtues. Wherefore *Ariſtotle* every where ſpeaks to the ſame effect, ſaying, *That all Moral Virtue has reference either to pleaſure or to pain; that 'tis for pleaſure we commit what is vile, and for fear of pain withdraw our ſelves from things that are honeſt.* So that *Epictetus* thought all Moral Philoſophy was ſumm'd up in this ſhort Precept, *Suſtine & abſtine:* As one part thereof referr'd to *Suffering*, the other to *Continence*.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 1. c. 2. Magn. Moral. l. 1. c. 6.

VIII. HENCE it appears that *Continence*, and *Suffering*, are not barely Virtues, but ſuch as are of a high account. For they both, in their Derivation, have reference to that *Force* and *Power* which is in the *Soul*, either to excite motion, or procure its reſt. And to this Faculty refers what *Antoninus* adviſeth, *That we cleanſe the Imagination, and ſtop all Motions of the Senſe.* Which takes in both the Duty of *Continence*, and of *Suffering*.

L. 7. § 29.

IX. BUT altho we have here ſaid enough of the *Primitive Virtues*; yet we may further inculcate, that they are ſo much the true Parents or Patriarchs of all the reſt, that in them alone all the Force and Eſſence of every other Virtue ſeems to be comprehended. Nor can any Man,

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Man, that is poſſeſſed of theſe, find difficulty in acquiring the reſt. This we chuſe to notifie leſt the Mind ſhould be diſtracted after many things, when theſe very few Objects are ſufficient not only for its Exerciſe, but to ſatisfie the moſt zealous ſearch and anxiety after Virtue, and for attaining that Felicity which alone can attend it.

X. We only add, that 'tis impoſſible, if a Man wants theſe, he ſhould have any Real Virtue, whatever he may ſhew of what is counterfeit or caſual. For Virtue muſt not be incumbred with Error, nor can it live but under the Regency of that *Prudence* we have already deſcribed. Yet if a Man ſhall by adventure, and without that Prudence, light upon the doing of ſome brave Action, 'tis not Virtue, but Fortune, that muſt be applauded for ſuch happy chance.

XI. Nor can *Sincerity*, or *Simplicity*, be wanting unto Virtue: For without theſe, 'tis not Virtue, but a ſhadow and pretended Image thereof. And therefore if it ſhall appear even in things well done, that they ſcarce had either been begun or perfected, without ſome extrinſecal and adventitious end; 'tis plain, thoſe events, how proſperous ſoever, loſe both the Name and Nature of *Virtues*. For this was not the proſecuting what was abſolutely and ſimply the beſt; but that which to the Man himſelf, and to his Appetite, was moſt inviting. This is not Virtue's Office, but the Contrivance or Heat of ſome animal Deſign.

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Offic. l. 1. Design. 'Tis what is true, simple, and sincere, is unto human Nature, as well as to Right Reason, most agreeable. Which, as *Tully* in his *Offices* hath explain'd.

XII. But lastly, as for *Patience*, a good Man can less be without it than any of the rest: since there can be no security of the rest without this. For how can the effeminate Man, the ambitious, or he that is a meer Slave to his Appetite, be faithful either to his Prince, his Country, Religion, Friend, or himself. No, he will abandon God above, he will betray all if a Storm arise, and to exempt himself from the Difficulties that affright him, he will not scruple to expose and sell Mankind.

These are the Monsters and reproach of their Race, Men that know not Friendship or Justice, or have any sense of human So-

Offic. l. 2. ciety. For the same *Tully* affirms, *That no man can be just, who fears Death, Pain, Banishment, or Want; or who prefers before Justice the things which are contrary to these Evils.* Of such Power is *Patience* for the support and vindication of Honesty.

XIII. The same excellent Philosopher, as well as Orator, refers to the like Points, when again, in his *Offices*, he says, —— *That to think meanly of those things which others exalt, and even to spurn at them upon a steady and rational account, was the part of a great Mind. And, on the other side, to bear patiently things that are calamitous, so as not to lose the Decorum*

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of Nature, or the Dignity of a wise Man, was the Mark of a generous Soul, and of an unshaken Mind. The first part of this Sentence points towards *Continence*, and the latter to *Suffering*. But he adds at last — *That to see a Man bid defiance to all Fears, yet be melted down by his own Desires; to see him invincible against all Labor, and yet to be overcome with his Lusts: this was a most deplorable state.* In this also we have a more plain intimation of those two Branches of *Patience*, namely, *Continence* and *Suffering*. And let this in short be sufficient for the three *Primitive Virtues.*

Chap. IV.

Of Justice in general: which is the first of the three principal Virtues, which are term'd Derivative.

I. THE *principal Derivative* Virtues are also three, as *Justice*, *Fortitude*, *and Temperance.*

Justice is well defin'd, by the Lawyers, to be, *Constans & perpetua Voluntas suum cuique tribuendi, A constant and perpetual Will to give every man his own.* And to this Sense *Aristotle* also conforms. So that this Virtue looks chiefly abroad, and is therefore properly called by the same Philosopher, *The Good of another:* *Ethic. Nicom. l. 5. c. 10.*

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ther: and especially if you regard that Branch of it which comprehends our Duty towards our Neighbor. But there is a part hereof, which takes in what we owe to God; altho we are as unable to advantage him by our Offerings, as we are to diminish or damnifie his blessed State by our Demerits. The Principles of Justice are to be found in *Noems* the thirteenth, fourteenth, *&c.* on to the twenty third.

II. That which, in this *Definition*, is called *Suum*, or a *Man's own*; is also frequently termed by the Lawyers, *Jus* or *Right*: and they say every thing is truly so styled, which by a sort of Fit, and congruous Habitude (that is, by Custom, Sanction, or Constitution) appertains to any Man. Now this Habitude, or Title of Property, takes its Rise from somewhat founded in the person, to whom such Right is owing or accrews; whether it be by some Quality, or Action, or even any Passion, as understood in the largest Sense. For the Man, who falls into Poverty, but yet is Honest, has a sort of Right or Title to receive Alms: and he, who has gotten any thing by Lawful Industry, has Right to keep it; and the same, if it come to him by Donation: And so of the rest.

III. But altho all Right is founded in, and ariseth from things themselves (as they are the Object or Subject matter of personal Right) yet is not such Right always clear or intelligible, without reference to some *Law*, which

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which must explain it. So *Andronicus Rhodius*, in his Commentary upon *Aristotle*, says, —— *In those things the Right is placed, in which the Law is also placed: For Law and Judgment is that which separates and discriminates Right from Wrong, and Just from Unjust.* However, as all Law is not of one and the same Nature, so neither all Right: For there is *Right Natural*, and *Right Legal*; and there is also *Law Natural*, and *Law Positive*. The first produceth those Sanctions, which are *immovable* and *permanent*; as from the latter come such as are *temporary* or *mutable*. These last do not obtain in every place; since they were made and fitted to those places only that stood in need of them. *Lib. 5. c. 9.*

IV. As to this *Law of Nature*, *Cicero* does in very apt, tho lofty, Terms, set it off in his First Book *de Legibus* —— *Let us* (says he) *for determining and constituting of Right, take our beginning from the supreme Law, which did in all Ages subsist both before any Law was written, or any City or Society of Men were in being.* But afterwards when he prescribes, that whatever partakes of Divine Nature (as he plainly owns our Souls to do) should be governed and directed by the Nature of God, by his Reason, Mind, Power, and Influence; in this he discovers, and reveals unto us, the Fountain and Original from whence proceeds the best and the most perfect Law of all.

For what (says he) *either among Men below, or in Heaven above, or in Earth, can be divinier*

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than Reason? This is the Faculty, which, being matur'd and come to its Perfection, is by a more exalted Name call'd true Sapience. *Wherefore* (says he) *since nothing is preferable to this Reason, which is conspicuous in man, as well as in God; we may conclude, it was Reason that made the first Bond of Society between God and Man. And this Bond being a Law, we may presume that Men are consociated to the Gods by Law.* By which he plainly intimates, that this supreme Law, which was equally referable to Gods and Men, was *Right Reason:* and from thence inculcates a similitude of Man with God.

Lib.2. c.1. § 9.

V. AGAIN in his second Book, where he describes this *natural Law*, he calls it, Reason which resulteth from the nature of things; and which did not (as he says) then begin to be a Law, when first it was written, but when it first had being; and that such Being it had from Eternity in the Divine Will. So that Law, which is eminent and truly such, fit to command, and fit to restrain, is the *Right Reason* of *Jupiter* himself. (This Sentence corresponds with what was cited before from *Zeno*, and from *Antoninus.*)

Lib.2. c.4. § 3.

Cap.3. § 3. Cap.1. § 7, 8, 9.

VI. The truth is, all Men do agree, that the supreme Law is *Right Reason:* and this Reason, being also a Divine Thing, is therefore immutable, always constant and like unto it self. But as it is placed in so mutable a Subject, as is human Nature, we see sometimes how this Reason is not so much altered, as even destroy'd and extinguish'd: But in God,

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God, and among the number of Bleſſed Spirits (which are, by *Antoninus*, called immortal Gods) the ſame Reaſon flouriſhes everlaſtingly. This ſeems alſo to be the very mind of *Andronicus*, that beſt Interpreter of *Ariſtotle*. *For altho (* ſays he*) among Men all Laws were mutable, yet 'tis of neceſſity, that with the Gods they ſhould be immutable, and that Right ſhould therefore be ſome natural Thing. Nay even among Men who are of ſound mind, and under any conſtitution, there is that immutable Law which is called Natural. For it does not much import, that Men of depraved minds do not comprehend what is juſt: ſince Honey is ſtill ſweet, tho to the ſick, who have loſt their reliſh, it may appear otherwiſe.* L. 5. c. 10

There is therefore a Law, which is eternal and immutable, and in ſome ſort common both to God and Men; namely *Right Reaſon:* which altho it enters not into the minds of Men wholly vitiated and profligate, yet ſtill is preſent, and always manifeſt to the ſound and prudent; which we have ſufficiently expos'd before. Cap. 2. §1, 6, 7.

VII. Now 'tis from this immutable and ſupreme Law, that all other Laws and Ordinances are drawn; even thoſe which are term'd mutable, and which would have no validity in them, unleſs by virtue of that high and eternal Law. And of this kind, the keeping of Faith in Contracts is a principal part. So *Virgil*,

—— *At tu dictis*, Albane, *maneres.* *Virgil. Æneid. l. 8.*

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Wherefore, inasmuch as every man is bound to stand to his Promise or Compact; he is tied to those Ordinances, which are not such by Nature, but by Law. Nay, Law it self is but a Compact, and, as such, must bind, where nothing is enacted by it against the supreme and immutable Law: But against this there is no Compact or Authority big enough to make any thing binding. For what is unjust in its own Nature, cannot by any external Consideration be made just. On which occasion *Cicero* says remarkably thus — *If Laws were only to be constituted by the Command of the People, by the Decrees of the Prince, or by the Sentence of the Judges; it might be lawful to rob, to commit Adulteries, and to forge Wills, by procuring the Votes and Suffrage of the Multitude thereunto. And if such and so great a Power, could reside in the Voices of unruly Men, so as to alter the very Nature of things; 'tis strange to me how they forbear enacting, that the most pernicious things be not presently made both laudable and just.* This is the Raillery wherewith that great Man treated so weak and so fantastick a Paradox.

De Legibus, lib. I.

VIII. THUS it appears; That, as from the Supreme Law, which is termed *Right Reason*, all perfect Knowledge of *Right* takes its original: so from the Observation of *Right* proceeds all Exercise of Justice.

CHAP.

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Chap. V.

Of Piety.

I. Justice comprehends the two parts of *Piety* and *Probity*. For Piety it self is a sort of *Justice*, by which we render to God the thing which is God's; that is to say, the thing which of Right appertaineth to him. And this Right of God's is very commonly term'd *Worship*: Which principally consists in this, that we press vehemently to know him truly, as the infallible Means to love and honor him entirely. For as we are sprung from him, and wholly depend upon his Will, so ought we to consecrate all the Faculties of Soul and Body to his good Pleasure, and to have our affiance in his Providence. And as to his holy Commands, whether those that are writ in Books, or inscribed inwardly in our Hearts; we must so fervently hearken and adhere thereto, as rather to bear all Infamy, Poverty, Oppression, and even Death it self, than quit our Integrity, or violate a good Conscience. These are God's Rights; and he that dares to derogate from them, or to infringe them, does as much as in him lies defraud and injure God himself.

II. 'Tis very obvious, that in these sorts of things, the true Worship of God does consist,

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seeing all Men do by *Worship*, understand the Honor which is paid to God. Now 'tis plain, that those, of all others, do pay most Honor to God, who (knowing the excellency of the Divine Nature, and also what Affinity the Mind of Man holds therewith) do most ardently contend to have that part of the Soul, which is so ally'd, preserve its similitude to the great Original; and do renounce all things, even life it self, rather than to damnifie that holy Resemblance.

III. THERE can be no proof so convincing as this, of the Love, Honor, and Esteem we pay to God. For while we reverence *that* poor Extract we bear of him; to the degree of spurning, not only the Pleasures of Life, but even Life it self, in comparison of those Consolations, which in true Virtue and Right Reason can only be found: We do therein openly avow, that as God is infinitely more excellent than his poor Image; so is he by infinite Degrees both honor'd and valu'd by us above our selves. And to do otherwise, or to be negligent and languishing in his holy Worship, were either to be ignorant of a God, or else not to know that Reverence, which the Divine Nature both deserves and demands from us.

IV. Now that Virtue is a thing Divine, and God's true Image, is therein manifest, that 'tis defin'd to be not what is most grateful to the Animal Life, but that which is absolutely and simply the best. It was in this high sense the

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the ancient Philosophers understood it: where *Plato* (teaching that Miseries would then have an end, when we fled from this mortal state unto the Gods) he says, —— *That such Flight was our Translation into the similitude of God, and that such similitude (so far as it was possible) did consist in our being holy, just, and prudent.*

V. He adds in another place, that the Divine Nature was the Law and Boundary to all temperate Men *For* (says he) *to the honest, and to the prudent, God is the Law; but to the unadvised, there was no Law, but their Appetites.* And again he adds, —— *That God was the true Measure of all things, and not Man a Measure to himself.* And again, —— *That whoever was wise and honest was God's Friend, as being like unto him.* By all which *Plato* inculcates, how divine a thing Virtue was, and how much ally'd, and resembling unto God himself.

VI. Hence it is that *Cicero* in his *Tusculan Questions*, has such magnificent Words touching human Souls; —— *As if*, says he, *the mind of man were but extracted from the mind divine; and to be compar'd with no other but God himself, if it were not arrogance so to speak.* And then explaining, in his first Book *de Legibus*, that saying from the *Delphick* Oracle of *Nosce te ipsum*, ; he adds, — *That whoever knows himself, must presently feel within him something which is divine; That he must conclude the Understanding given him, ought to be but as some*

Tusculan. Quæst. 6. l. 5.

De Legib.

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Image dedicated to God; and that he ſtands bound both to ſay and act ſuch things as are worthy of ſo Heavenly a Gift.

Lib. 12. § 19. VII. Conſonant hereto are the frequent Sayings of *Marcus Antoninus*, ——*That we muſt confeſs we have ſomewhat within us more excellent and divine than what ſubmits to the Controlment of our Paſſions, or than can be agitated by them as it were a mere Puppet.* He adds a little after,——*That every Man's Mind is a God, and had its Original from him.* *Sect.* 2. And again,——*Why ſeek we farther than the immediate buſineſs of a Creature intellectual? One that loves Society, and partakes in thoſe Laws which are common to God?* *Sect.* 22. It were endleſs to name all he ſays: yet, where he teaches in brief what it was to be converſant with the Gods, he ſays thus, *That every Man lives with the Gods, who does what is dictated by that God, which* Jupiter *has given him for his Captain and Director.* Meaning hereby, *That every Man's own Reaſon, and his Intellect, was that Director or inferior God.* Nay, ſo ally'd he thinks the Soul unto God, as to call it a diſmembred *Parcel* of him: altho herein he ſpoke but little as a Philoſopher.

VIII. Since therefore there is ſo much of Divinity interwoven in a virtuous Mind; 'tis plain, that if we cultivate Virtue, as it has reference to God, and as 'tis his moſt viſible Image, we manifeſtly worſhip the great God himſelf. And whereas other Rituals have been ſubject to Mutation, and ſhall not be laſting; this one Right of Adoration, which

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which is God's Right, must be immutable and everlasting.

Wherefore the Sum of all natural *Religion* seems to consist in that Precept of *Antoninus*, *To remember God, and to know that he abhors all Hypocrisie, and will not be serv'd but with what is rational and like to himself.* Or, as he elsewhere speaks, *That a Man should not rejoice, or acquiesce in any thing, but in passing from one good action to another; such as had reference to God's Glory, and to the publick Good.* For God's most *immovable* and *immutable Right* is this, that we love him for his wonderful Perfections, and then imitate him as much as we can. *Lib.* 10. *Lib.* 6. § 7.

IX. This however is not said to the exclusion of other Rights; which have either been reveal'd by holy Oracles, or injoin'd by the Decree of the supreme Magistrate. For there may be various Ceremonies, and other Circumstances of Divine Worship, which, in Virtue of a Law, may be establish'd as of Divine Right, and such as may not be violated, till by Legal Authority they are revok'd. But still these must have no Repugnancy in them, either to the Oracles of God, or to the supreme Laws of Virtue.

X. Now from all that has been said, 'tis easie to comprehend what *Piety* is; For according to *Plato*'s Definition, *Holiness is a part of Justice*; and so *Andronicus Rhodius* (almost to the same sense) defines it to be, *A Science that makes us faithful and obedient unto the Laws Divine.* Whence 'tis manifest what Impiety must

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must be: and how fitly it may be divided into these several kinds, namely, *Superstition*, *Profaneness*, *Enthusiasm*, and *Rituality*.

XI. Now *Superstition* is a sort or mode of Impiety, in fastening upon God (by way of Worship) those things which are contumelious to him: which is plainly to be injurious to the Deity. Wherefore, *Superstition is that Impiety, by which a man considers God to be so light, or so passionate, as with trivial things either to be appeas'd, or else mov'd to wrath.*

Prophaneness also is that Impiety, by which a Man does with Impudence and Imprudence violate all Divine Rights, whether temporary, or immutable. And this Disease does sometimes ripen into downright *Atheism*; than which no state of the Soul can be more sad and deplorable.

XII. Enthusiasm is that Impiety, by which a Man does boldly violate, and kick under foot, all external Rights; while yet he drives on, with Heat and Ardor of Mind, to some internal and spiritual Worship of God.

But *Rituality* is that Impiety, by which a Man, while he is observing those exterior Rights of God, and adheres with a sort of Conscience to things ceremonial; does in the mean time freeze, as to any spiritual Feeling, or internal Worship of God.

XIII. These in a manner are those Offences in Religion, which are most obvious: but if others increase the number, I shall not gainsay it. I confess it was our intention to treat

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treat rather of the Virtues than of the Vices: But, as *Ariſtotle* ſays, the one may be known by compariſon with the other. *And the Rule or Law is Judge unto both.* *De Anima, l. 1. c. 5.*

However the Demonſtration of the preſent Virtue of Piety is particularly explain'd in *Noema* the thirteenth, ſixteenth, and twenty firſt: As alſo in the fifth, eighth, tenth, *&c.* For as to the Being of a God, and that our Souls are immortal; we have ſufficiently prov'd theſe in our Writings *againſt Atheiſm, and of the Souls immortality:* unto which we therefore refer.

CHAP. VI.

Of Probity: Or of Juſtice, properly ſo called.

I. THE other part of *Juſtice* is *Probity*, by which we give to every Man what is his own. And this may be divided into three parts, *Political*, *Oeconomical*, and *Moral*.

The firſt contains the Offices of the Magiſtrate towards the People, and of the People to the Magiſtrate.

The ſecond refers to the Duties of a Father towards Children, Wife, and Family; and of each of theſe towards their Maſter, Father, and Husband. The

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The third refers to the Duties of private Men, or at leaſt of equals, each to other. Of all which to ſpeak in particular would be too tedious.

II. But this in ſhort may be ſaid, that 'tis not the part of a Magiſtrate to act againſt Reaſon, or to be ſwayed by his own paſſion, but in all things to adhere to what is preſcribed by Law and by Right Reaſon. For as *Ariſtotle* calls the Magiſtrate, *The very Soul and Spirit of the Law*; ſo *Tully* on the other hand holds, *That a Magiſtrate ſhould not only be directed, but even animated by the Laws. This* (ſays he) *is the Power and Duty of a Magiſtrate who preſides, that he direct things profitable and juſt, and ſuch as hold conformity with the Laws. For as the Magiſtrate is above the People, ſo are the Laws above the Magiſtrate.* Now the Peoples Duty is, to obey the Magiſtrate, to contribute chearfully and liberally to the publick Charge; not to contend about things indifferent, ſuch as have by Cuſtom paſs'd into Right, but to preſerve Peace, Society and good Order.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 5.

De Legibus, lib. 3.

III. The Father of a Family ſhould be careful, to look about; to provide all things neceſſary; to treat with Gentleneſs his Wife, Children, and Servants: Above all, to avoid either giving pernicious example, or permitting it in others, but rather early to ſuppreſs, or expel it from the Houſe. On the other hand, 'tis the Duty of each of theſe reſpectively, to give the other all fit Obſervance; and, tho he ſhould at times be out of humor, or a little

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little in the wrong, yet were it not wise or proper hastily to contend or dispute with him. For as *Pittacus* advised, *'Tis not seemly to be wrangling with your Parents, altho what you speak be the right.* And indeed this Rule may well take place in respect of Magistrates, and even all that are superior to us, either in Age or in Relation: And, even to our Uncles in particular, whom the Ancients called Parents.

IV. LASTLY, the Duty of private Men towards their Equals, and indeed towards all, is, ever to be aiding either in Help or Counsel, when it is in our power to do it. Much more are we tied to observe all our Compacts and Promises; but never to seek our own Benefit by another Man's Hurt.

V. NOW as to that celebrated Division of Justice into *Distributive* and *Corrective*, it has chiefly reference to the Politicks. And in that Division it is where *Aristotle*'s Observation takes place, namely, that *Justice* was a sort of *Equality*. But the *Equality* whereto Justice inclines, and which it seems to affect, is of that sort which shews it self in the ways of *Proportion*. For Proportion is a *Rationum Æqualitas*, which *Ratio* (in the Language of Geometry) is that Relative Correspondence which one Quantity or Number has to another; or by which it appears, how often one Quantity or Number does comprehend, or is comprehended in another.

VI.

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VI. But as to Proportion or Analogy, this is either *Geometrical* or *Arithmetical.*

The *Geometrical Proportion* is when four Magnitudes, or four Numbers are so compar'd, namely, 2, 6; 4, 12; or 6, 2; 12, 4: As that the third (namely 12) in this latter Example, doth as often contain the Fourth (which is 4,) as the first (namely 6) does contain the second (which is 2;) And that the third in the first Example (namely 4) is as often contain'd in the fourth (which is 12) as is the first (namely 2) in the second (which is 6.)

This is the Proportion that refers to *Distributive Justice.* For as one person is to another, suppose *Ajax* to *Achilles*, so also, in judicial Determinations, ought there to be had a due consideration of Honor to Honor. This is that which is call'd the Equality of *Proportion.* For if the Merits of several Men shall happen to have the same Circumstances and Reasons of Equality; 'tis fit that not only in *Reason*, but even in *Magnitude*, their Rewards should be also equal.

VII. As for *Arithmetical Proportion* 'tis when four Numbers, or Magnitudes, are so compar'd, as in 5, 7: 9, 11. That the same Excess or Defect attends the two first each to other, as is in one of the latter to the other. Namely, that in each of them there be the same Equality, both of Excess, and of Defect, as in the Numbers above. And this has reference to *Corrective Justice.*

But

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But here we must ingenuously confess, that it seems hard to find in the Measures of *Corrective Justice* any sufficient or competent Image of such *Arithmetical Proportion* as in this Distinction of the said four Terms is express'd. For whatever *Andronicus* thought to the contrary, 'tis plain, that the Excesses and Defects which arise from the Terms before enumerated, are not equal. 'Tis true, that two and two, as to the *Ratio* are equal. But to take two from seven, and but two from eleven, is as to *Proportion* unequal. So also to add two to seven, and but two to five is not equal. Wherefore if we should humour *Andronicus* in his own way, and venture to suppose or invent a Case of four Terms, it would seem fit to make the two first of them to be (as for example) the Party who bears the Injury, and then the Party who gave it, which however is so to be understood, that as yet no Appeal is made to any Judge, or Sentence given against the Wrong-doer. But when afterwards the offended Party takes on him the Name of Plaintiff, and the offending Party that of Defendant; here two other new Terms are started up, and then it follows, after Sentence given by the Judge; that the Excess or Difference, which before appear'd between him that did the wrong, and him that bore it, is quite inverted. For what the Doer or Defendant injuriously took, is now by Sentence commanded back; and by how much he first over-

Lib. 5. *c.* 5.

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overcame the Sufferer or Plaintiff by what he took away; by so much is he now pulled back, and damnified by what he is forced to refund. And this is true *Arithmetical Proportion.*

L. 5. *c.* 5. VIII. The same *Andronicus* seems to level at the like thing in what he thus adds, *That as is the Wrong-doer to the Sufferer, so is the Judge to the Wrong-doer: For what this Man did against the other, the Judge does the same against him; and so makes them equal.* And this ought to refer as well to the Defect, as to the Excess, of what is equal; for Injuries, whether great or small, ought to have proportionable Reparation. But he that is curious after such Niceties as these, may, if he think fit, consult that Author, who dwells (as we conceive) too long on this Piece of Subtilty. For 'tis plainly our Opinion, that a Man may very well administer *Corrective Justice*, tho he never heard, in his life, the Meaning of *Arithmetical Proportion.*

IX. It would make more to our purpose, if as well that Distinction, as that Relation, between *Justice* and *Equity*, were observ'd,

L. 5. *c.* 16. which *Andronicus* notes in these words; *That* (says he) *which we call equal, is just; and in some Cases more excellent than what is only just. Not that Equity excels Justice; or that it is of another kind, and so more excellent in its nature; but only by being of a greater extent. For* (as he adds) *Equity is that which supplies the Defects of the Law; And, since all Events could not be particularly foreseen, Equity not only corrects Errors, but superadds Restrictions and Limitations,*

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Limitations, which were omitted at the making of the Law.

X. Now it seems worth our while to reflect on this Definition of *Equity*, as it plainly testifies there is something, which in its own Nature is just. For if nothing were just, but in virtue of some written Law; what need then would there be of Emendation; seeing the Law (whatever it were) made every thing just? But 'tis the part and Province of *Equity*, to over-rule and correct the very Law (even as the Intellect does the Will;) and, as *Aristotle* says, *To establish such things in such Cases, as the Legislator himself had not failed to have provided for, had he but foreseen the event.* But this Saying of his had been very ridiculous, if the Nature of *Just* and *Unjust*, had not been grounded on the Nature of things, and the various Circumstances that attend them; but depended merely on the Will and Pleasure of a Legislator.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 5. c. 14.

L. 2. c. 4. §. 3.

And thus much of *Justice.*

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CHAP. VII.

Of the other two principal Derivative Virtues, Fortitude and Temperance.

I. FORTITUDE and *Temperance* herein agree, that they relate more immediately to our selves: yet the Benefit of these, as of every other Virtue, redounds some way unto our Neighbor; and hence we style it *Universal Justice.* So *Rhodius* the Paraphrast has it: *This is Justice, when we turn every Virtue to the Use and Advantage of another.* So to abstain from another Man's Wife is *Justice* as well as *Temperance*; and to repel the Enemies of our Country, is *Justice* and *Fortitude* both; for as this is a Debt we owe our Country, so without Fortitude we could not discharge it.

L. 5. c. 1.

II. BUT what *Fortitude* is, both *Tully* and *Aristotle* inform us, in their Descriptions of a *couragious Man.* The first tells us; *That the Man of a steady and couragious mind, is not to be shaken at cross events; he must not fall from his Character, and shew Confusion; he must have presence of mind to direct what stands with Reason: and 'tis the mark of a high Capacity to foresee all that may fall out, and to provide accordingly for it. Herein consists the chief Renown, to overcome by Prudence and good Advice: for to rush headlong into a Battel, or to fall to handy-blows with an Enemy, this alone is a poor and brutal thing. 'Tis true, when the time is come, and*

De Offic. iii, l. 1.

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and that neceſſity requires it, then we muſt ſtrike heartily, and prefer death before any thing that is ſervile or baſe. But as we muſt not paſs for Cowards by an induſtrious ſhunning of Dangers; ſo 'tis not neceſſary, and it were even ridiculous, to expoſe our ſelves, when there is no Cauſe that requires it.

III. YET *Andronicus*, in Conformity with his *Ariſtotle*, makes it one part of a *valiant Man*, that he dares intrepidly advance towards any danger: *So that his ſtout Man is he that fears nothing.* And *Tully* elſewhere ſays, *That the two great Gifts of Fortitude, are the Contempt of Pain and Death.* But *Andronicus* is more accurate in Circumſtances: adding, that the Dangers attending his Hero ſhould be, *Such as allow'd him to exert the Power of an inflexible Mind, and the Dint of his Will; or elſe to have before him the Contemplation of a noble Death: For that he was properly valiant, who could frankly ſubmit to any excellent way of dying.* L. 3. c. 7. L. 3. c. 8.

He has it alſo elſewhere, *That whoever is valiant, moves ſteadily towards a glorious Death.* But this ſort of Death can only be purchaſed in the Cauſe and Quarrel of Virtue. *For not thoſe, who paſſionately rage and lay about them, are the Men we ſpeak of: they are Fighters indeed, but not valiant. Whence we may conclude, that Fortitude is a Virtue, by which a Man may, with Conſtancy of Mind, bear up againſt all the Dangers of Life, and even Death it ſelf. And this either for the Cauſe of Honeſty, or the ſake of that which is ſimply and abſolutely the beſt.*

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IV. I mention here *Constancy of Mind*, and not *Indolence* or *Insensibility*. For as *Andronicus*, according to the Mind of *Aristotle*, has it,

L. 3. c. 9. *To be gnaw'd with sorrow upon cross events, is not at all inconsistent which being courageous. For by how much a Man is oppress'd with Grief, and yet bears up for Virtues sake, by so much the more deserves he the Reputation of being valiant.* But here I also mention a *virtuous Cause*: For a Mind that is dispos'd to Dangers, not for common Utility, but for private Ends, this must rather pass for *Boldness* than for *Fortitude*.

V. CICERO saith, *A Mind that is great and valiant has these two Marks. The first is a light esteem of outward things; for it will plainly appear, that a Man ought neither to admire, or wish for, any thing, but what is just and suitable. Nor ought he ever to submit servilely to any Man, or be subjected to the Perturbations of Mind or Fortune. The other is, when a Mind is so fram'd and constituted, as to undergo great things; I mean, publick Services, full of Difficulty, Labor, and Danger: and particularly with reference to life, and all the Conveniencies of living.* This excellent Sentence of *Cicero*, may serve as a Paraphrase on the Definition we have mention'd before.

De Offic. l. 1.

VI. BUT as for the Cause of Honesty or Virtue, the greatest Dangers are to be undertaken; so on the same account are corporeal Pleasures to be renounced. Else it were not so much *Temperance*, as a certain Morosenes or Stupidity of the Mind. For there can be no

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no Virtue, where the end is other than what is honeſt and ſimply good. Wherefore *Temperance* may be defin'd to be, *A Virtue, by which a Man forbids himſelf corporeal Pleaſures; to the end he may enjoy that Pleaſure, which reſults from a Conſcience of well-doing, both more conſtantly and more entirely.* For to obſerve great Rules of *Temperance* merely for Health's ſake, may alſo be the Virtue of a Beaſt: This does not mount up to that point, which makes us Men, but is a thing in common with inferior Animals.

VII. By *bodily Pleaſures*, I here underſtand not thoſe thin and purer ones, which come by *Seeing*, *Hearing*, or *Smelling*; but (as *Ariſtotle* notes) thoſe groſſer ones of the *Taſte*, and the *Touch*; which relate to *Senſuality*, and to the Companions and Inflamers of it, namely, to Wine, and high Feeding. *Temperance* is, almoſt by all the Writers, confin'd to the Boundaries we here ſet down: Whence 'tis plain, that 'tis but a Branch or Parcel of that Primitive Virtue, which we have call'd *Continence*, even as *Fortitude* is a Branch of *Patience*. *Ethic. Nicom. l. 3. c. 13.*

The Reaſons of *Temperance* and *Fortitude*, may be had from *Noema* the fifth, ſixth, ſeventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth. As of *Probity*, from the fourteenth, fifteenth, ſixteenth, ſeventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, two and twentieth, and three and twentieth. Which, unto all who think fit to examine them will ſoon appear.

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Chap. VIII.

Of the Reductive Virtues.

I. WE have explain'd the nature of the principal *Derivative Virtues*; and the Reasons of them are, from their *Noemas*, briefly expos'd.

To these three Virtues, all that remain may not unfitly be reduced, so as we venture to call them all Reductive Virtues: And the reason of each will be found in those *Noemas*, unto which their Principles are referr'd.

II. Now such of this kind as are reducible unto *Justice*, are as follow, *Liberality*, *Magnificence*, *Veracity*, *Gratitude*, *Candor*, *Urbanity*, *Fidelity*, *Modesty*, *Humanity* (or a Love to Mankind) and *Hospitality*. Lastly, *Friendship* it self, and such others as comprize good Will towards our Neighbors; namely, *Affability*, *Courtesie*, or *Officiousness*, which are also Branches of *Humanity*. For since the Effects of all these Virtues have reference to our Neighbor; and that all are dictated from right Reason, which has the power of a Law: 'Tis but fit to rank them as Parts and Parcels of *Justice*.

Unto *Fortitude* we refer *Magnanimity* and its Dependents; as *Generosity*, *Lenity*, *Constancy*, and also *Diligence*. *Andronicus* adds unto them *Vivacity*, *Presence of Mind*, *Vigor*, and *Manhood*. Lastly,

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Laſtly, unto *Temperance* we refer *Frugality*, *Humility*, *Modeſty*, *Auſterity*, and thoſe other Adherents which *Andronicus* adds, namely, *A ſlender and uncompounded Diet*, *Unblamableneſs in Behaviour*, and *a contented Mind*.

Theſe are the Names of the moſt remarkable of the Reductive Virtues; for we ravel not into every ſmall thing, nor involve our ſelves in their ſtrict and minute Definitions; ſince the Nature of ſuch Dependents, may enough be known from thoſe *Principal* or *Primitive Virtues*, unto which they refer.

III. However, it will not be amiſs to touch a little on each of thoſe above, and eſpecially on ſuch of them as have reference unto *Juſtice*, becauſe they are Branches of that *Juſtice*, which *Rhodius* calls and defines to be *Voluntary Juſtice*. For the Probity of every Man is more conſpicuous, where no Penalty compels him, than where he is liable to Law, or elſe to Defamation, for what he does.

IV. Liberality has reference to the Uſe of Mony: *And there is no other Uſe thereof, than ſpending and beſtowing it.* So that he who, according to his Fortune, does chearfully and willingly ſpend upon fit Perſons, and in things convenient, and in proper place; he may juſtly be ſtiled *Liberal*; he that keeps no Meaſures, is a *Prodigal*; and he that falls ſhort in theſe, is a *Niggard*. *Andronicus*, l. 4. c. 1.

V. Magnificence has alſo reference to Expence; but then it muſt be in things ſingular and great, as the Name it ſelf de-

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notes. And here, in like manner, three Considerations must enter, of the *Person*, of the *Work*, and of its *End* or *Use*. For it behoves not every Man to make large Expence; nor is he that does it properly *Magnificent*, unless what he splendidly lays out, is also dedicated to some very great End. Wherefore *Aristotle* notes, That things of this Rate and denomination, are commonly for *Divine Use*, or for the *Publick*.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 4. c. 5.

VI. GRATITUDE is an excellent and chearful part of *Justice*; by which he that receives a Benefit, does impatiently, and as soon as possibly he can, repay it with Advantage.

VII. VERACITY is a Virtue which leads a Man to shew, both in word and deed, what really he is, without Simulation or Dissimulation in any thing. However, the latter of these two Faults is more excusable, if moderately performed, and only done to avoid a shew of Vanity or Pride. But, if it exceed Bounds, it savors of Arrogance; just as *Aristotle* observed in the *Laconic* Garment, saying, *He that is too affected in his own diminution, as well as he who is Pragmatical in his own Praises, is guilty of Ostentation.* But tho that of *Aristotle*'s be an elegant Care, in his opposing two Vices to every Virtue; yet to me it would seem more profitable, if we opposed unto Truth that single Vice, by which one Man takes on him the Guise of another to conceal his own; and which we do most significantly term *Hypocrisie*. This is an Evil in the

Nicom. Ethic. l. 4. c. 13.

Lib. 2, *c.* 9. § 1.

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the World, which is the Mother of much Mischief; and many are involved in great Disappointments and Tribulations by it, as well as the *Hypocrite* himself.

VIII. CANDOR is that which guides us to interpret with Benignity the Words and Actions of all Men: But when they are such as cannot well be born; then, with an honest and decent Liberty, to check and reprehend them. The Opposites to this Virtue are called *Morosenes* on the one hand, as of *Caressing* on the other: But when it tends to our Lucre or Advantage, then 'tis called *Cajoling* or *Adulation.*

IX. URBANITY is when either we pleasantly and inoffensively play upon others, or bear the like from them: And those, who will agree to neither of these ways, are by *Aristotle* call'd *Clowns* and *Rusticks.* But for such as spare none, and keep neither Bounds nor Decorum in their Jesting, they are termed *Scurrilous.* *Ethic. Nicom.* l. 4. c. 14.

X. FIDELITY is seen, when we stand to our Promises, and in restoring back what has been deposited with us, where no written Law can compel it.

XI. MODESTY is a constant and perpetual Observance of what belongs to *Decorum:* Wherefore it seems as the very Flower of *Justice,* or rather somewhat more delicate, or paramount unto it. For *Justice* commands us to do Violence to no Man; but *Modesty* says, do not so much as displease a Man. And in this

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De Offic. l. 1. this (says *Cicero*) is the Power of *Decorum* chiefly seen. For he defines it to be, *A thing which conforms to that Superiority in Man, by which his Nature has distinguish'd him from other Creatures.* And surely this is enough to admonish us against yielding to any thing that is brutal, or against the Dignity of our Composition.

But we are further to know, that, beside general *Decorum*, there are also some special Acts therein, which are suited to every Rank, Age, and Condition of Life: As to the Prince and to the Priest; the Philosopher and the Plebeian; Men and Women; the Aged and the Young, and the like. But let *this* be the Rule for all, That we pay to every one what by custom they may expect; and that which, by the common Opinion of all Men, is establish'd and approv'd. Thus we shall give Disappointment to none, nor despise the Judgment of the Publick. But for any single Man to set up in defiance of all his Companions, and to despise whatever *the* Neighborhood shall say of him; this looks not only arrogant, but as if he were stupid, or growing profligate.

Wherefore to observe a degree of Reverence towards all Men, is part of *Justice*; neither should we by ill Gestures, or by immoderate Talking, offend the Sight, or overload the Hearing of any one.

XII. HUMANITY is a Virtue, which, from the sense of that Excellency that is in human Nature and the common Affinity we have

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have with all Mankind, leads us to be officious and benevolent to every one.

Hospitality is a Virtue, which moves us to be kind to Strangers, not only as they are Men, but as destitute perhaps, while abroad, of those Conveniencies they had at home.

XIII. CIVILITY is a Virtue that minds us of our Tye to all Men in the common Link of Humanity; and bids us with such Chearfulness of Voice, Countenance, and Gesture, to salute whom we meet; as that when we ask them How they do, they may think themselves even the better for our asking.

Affability is when we, being met and spoken to by others, do with Gentleness and good Expressions entertain them.

But *Officiousness* is where a Man stoops to every little Service towards his Superiors, or at least his Equals; and is flying to do every small thing that the Company seems to want.

All these Virtues are fitly referable to *Humanity*.

But hereto is opposed, not only what is plain *Inhumanity*, but that fond and affected Humor of some, who will needs pretend to oblige the whole World, and so to caress some Men in particular, as if presently they would adopt them, and make their Fortunes; while in reality, they mind nothing they say, or intend more by those enormous Civilities, than the pleasure of supposing they are just credited while they speak.

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This we call a manifeſt Infraction of *Juſtice*, becauſe by ſuch deluſion, an honeſt Heart is often rob'd of his ſincereſt Affections; than which he has not a more valuable Treaſure to beſtow, where he is really willing to oblige, or to be grateful: So that we juſtly make this no leſs criminal, than any other Rape or Felony.

XIV. LASTLY, *True Friendſhip* ſtands in the rank of Virtue. But for that which is vulgarly ſo called, 'tis, for the moſt part, nothing elſe, but the Combination of a few cunning Men againſt the reſt of their Neighbors, to ſerve the Turn of each other. They award unjuſtly, and bear falſe witneſs; and call this mutual good Will and Friendſhip among themſelves, while they undo the reſt. This is the more vile and abject piece of *Injuſtice*, as it is mixed with *Hypocriſie*: For they ſatisfie themſelves, in that the Injury is not done with intention to hurt their Neighbor, but only to gratifie a Friend.

But as for that which is real *Friendſhip*, doubtleſs, there is nothing more Holy, or more Divine; 'tis not leſs a Virtue, than is *Humanity* or *Hoſpitality*: And 'tis only to be found with ſuch as are poſſeſs'd of all other Virtues. It comprehends thoſe Duties, which are not only owing to good Men in general, but to thoſe eſpecially, whoſe long Converſation, whoſe try'd Sincerity, whoſe Uſefulneſs and good Turns, have obliged us to diſtinguiſh and place them above the reſt of Mortals. However

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However the best Fruit of Friendship is a mutual Stimulation unto Virtue. Thus it was noted of old among the *Pythagoreans: For* (says *Iamblicus*) *they did frequently admonish each other, never to separate from him, who was one with them in God. For all their application to Friendship, both in word and deed, tended but to an Union and Communion with God; and that all might be, as it were, incorporated together into a Divine Life.* To which he presently adds, *Than which, nothing better can be found, either in their Discourses, or in their practice of Living. And I do likewise believe, that it comprehends all the Duties of true Friendship.* *Iamblicus de Vitâ Pythagoricâ, c. 33.* *Aristotle* is not much different from this sense, where he notes, that the principal Fruit and Pleasure of Friendship, did consist in those things which are proper to us as Men, namely, as we were rational and discoursive: *For the Society of Men at a Table, was not as the business of Cattle feeding in the same Pasture, but for Ratiocination and Intercourse of Speech.* *Ethic. Nicom. l. 9. c. 8.* And thus much, in short, of those Virtues which are reducible to *Justice.*

XV. MAGNANIMITY is the first of those Virtues, which have reference to *Fortitude*, or rather unto *Sufferance.* But it is sufficiently understood from *Aristotle's* Character of one that is *Magnanimous. He is one* (says he) *who strives to do great Things, or what may be for great Ends, and by which he may acquire great Honor. He is not therefore so apt to run into frequent Dangers, as into great ones;* *Ethic. Nicom. l. 4. c. 7, 8.*

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ones; not prompt for every Turn, but rather slow and deliberate; he will not rashly undertake even great Matters, but with Counsel and good Caution; he is not much taken up with the Care of worldly Concerns, as not thinking them either great enough, or of much account. But Honour is, in his esteem, as the highest of human-external Benefits, inasmuch as he observes, 'tis the highest thing we have to pay, even to the Gods.

Here we suppose our magnanimous Man to be so perfectly endowed; as that knowing his own Virtue, which is a Heavenly Gift, he believes he ought not to be deprived by Men of the Honour which should attend it.

Yet if Men shall ungratefully refuse to do their Parts herein, he makes no Idol of this Honor, or of their popular Incense: For, being conscious of his own single Virtue, he can there sit down as at a Feast. And thus the Learned Paraphrast adds to his Character, *That he is a Man who has greater consideration for Truth, and for his Duty than for Fame.* And as *Ennius* also notes, *He is one that carries Friendship and Enmity in an open Breast.* For who need fly to Corners, or be asham'd of Truth, that being satisfied of his own Goodness, and ravish'd with the Joys of such a Blessing, must needs have Contempt for inferior Matters, and can sooner part with his Life, than renounce Virtue, or any Branch thereof?

These are the chief Marks and Characters, that *Aristotle* gives the *Magnanimous*. And 'tis with good reason that *Magnanimity*

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mity is referr'd to *Fortitude*, and to *Sufferance*: For we cannot possibly undertake great Things, without much Labor and great Vexation, and those who voluntarily decline Honor and publick Office, do it for the most part upon the score of Ease.

XVI. LENITY also is fitly referr'd to *Fortitude*, and to *Sufferance*; inasmuch as to bear Injuries is an Act of *Patience*, and to despise them, the property of a great Mind: So that from both or either of them, results *Lenity*; by which, tho injur'd, we are not easily provok'd to Resentments, at least, we can easily abstain from Revenge. And hereto refers that excellent Advice of *Antoninus*: *That it was highly estimable to live benignly, and to practise Truth and Justice, even among Men of no Truth, and of no Justice.* For indeed nothing does more naturally try or stir up the Indignation of a generous Mind, than to see Men given over to Falshood and Imposture. *Lib. 6. Sect. 47.*

XVII. GENEROSITY differs herein from *Magnanimity*, that it seems to be a more common Virtue, and is not only restrained to great Honors, or to great Enterprises, but consists in this, That a Man exercise his own freedom and liberty of Thinking in the best manner he can; that he rest contented herein; and as to Fortune, and the World's Opinion, to look on them as things of indifferency; yet still to regard all Men with Civility, and to suppose them what they ought to be, till the contrary be made manifest.

XVIII.

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XVIII. CONSTANCY is a Virtue, by which we are taught to be just and conformable to our selves, in all things we do or say.

Diligence is a Virtue, by which we prosecute indefatigably whatever we had good cause to undertake.

Lib. de Passionibus.

Vivacity is defin'd by *Andronicus*, *To be a firm and lively Aptitude in the Soul to perfect whatever is begun.*

But *Presence of Mind* seems to intimate a certain Promptitude of the Soul, to undertake what it ought, and therein to persist: So that it seems to differ but little from *Diligence*. He names also *Strenuousness*, which he makes to be an Habit that enables us to hold out in the laborious Searches of Virtue.

Lastly, *Manhood* or *Virility*, is by him defin'd to be, *A Vertue, by which a Man carries himself stoutly, and with Circumspection through publick Affairs.* And he makes the principal Functions hereof to consist, in being Intrepid as to Death, Bold in all Dangers, and to prefer an Honorable Exit before Shameful Living. These indeed are the Parts of *Fortitude* also.

XIX. THERE now only remain those Vertues, which appertain to *Temperance*, or (if you will) to *Continence*.

Such as *Frugality*, that is a Virtue, by which a Man, consulting both Temperance and his own Condition, becomes more sparing in his Expence, yet so as not to be quite Parsimonious. From which Definition

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'tis plain, that *Frugality* is fitly referr'd unto *Temperance*, as is *Liberality* unto *Justice*: For this latter appertains to the Benefit of others, whereas the former has referenc to our selves.

XX. HUMILITY is a Vertue, by which we easily suppress and extinguish all inordinate Desires of Honor, Rule, and the Splendor of Riches; that so we may be able to fix our Minds upon better things. This conforms to the Mind of *Marcus* the Emperor, who advises a Man, *In every Occasion that presents, to demonstrate himself just, prudent, and a plain follower of God.* *Marcus*, l. 12. §. 27.

XXI. AUSTERITY is defin'd, by *Andronicus Rhodius*, to be, *An Habit of the Soul that cannot bear any Lewdness either in Speech or Pleasures. Modesty* seems nearly ally'd, as being a Vertue in the Soul, which chaseth early away all the Preparations to Sin; nay it cannot easily bear any thing that looks but suspiciously naught.

XXII. As to the *Slenderness of Diet* in point of *Quantity*, and the *plainness* of it in reference to *Cost*, this seems something stricter than *Frugality* it self. *Andronicus* calls this latter, *An habit of being content with any thing*: And the first, *An habit void of Desire to see Charge or Preparation in any thing.* *De Passionibus.*

For the *Inoffensiveness of Gesture*, it does consist, in Ordering the Figure and Motion of the Body, according to Decorum; and this makes it to be a part of *Modesty*.

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Contentment of Mind is an habit of being eaſily ſatisfied with the common Conveniencies of Life. For, according to the old Obſervation, *Nature is content with a very little.*

XXIII. Thus have we treated of the *Reductive Vertues*, with what Brevity we could. But as we dwelt not long upon them, ſo we judge it leſs needful to enumerate every Vice, ſince their Natures are known enough from the Doctrine of thoſe Vertues which they contradict.

However, as we ſtill reſolve not to go far, or meddle with every Vice, which ſome ſuppoſe to be as ſo many Extremes to Vertue; yet we ſhall preſume to examin that *Mediocrity* which *Ariſtotle* treats of, and in which the Nature of Vertue is made to conſiſt.

Much Contention is made herein; yet we ſhall venture to ſpeak our Senſe in the *Chapter* following.

Chap. IX.

Of that Mediocrity, in which Vertue does conſiſt: And of the true meaſure of ſuch Mediocrity.

I. That Vertue lies in a *Medicerity* is not quite untrue, if rightly underſtood: Yet as ſome introduce Vertue attended, on each

L. 2. c. 8. §. 7.

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each hand, with oppoſite Vices; and juſt as it were a Roſe placed between two Nettles: This, we do confeſs, were a pretty Show, but it cannot poſſibly hold in every Caſe.

II. FOR in the Caſe of *Juſtice*, where a Man takes no more than what is of right his due; this is plainly oppoſite to that part which is vicious, and where a Man takes more than what is his due. But here if a Man takes leſs; this ſurely ſeems no Vice, but rather a ſort of *Generoſity*, or *Modeſty*. So again in the Conferring of Rewards, to beſtow leſs than was agreed for, hath as much of *Injuſtice*, as to give according to Proportion is juſt: Yet to beſtow more largely than was agreed for, is not, on the other hand, *Injuſtice*, but rather *Liberality*. So alſo, in the way of Buying and Selling; the over-weight that is thrown in to get a Cuſtomer's good Will, altho either in Weight or Meaſure, it exceed the Bargain, yet ſurely this has nothing of *Injuſtice* in it.

III. MOREOVER unto *Prudence* (which doubtleſs is a Moral Vertue) there is only *Imprudence* to be oppos'd, which is the Defect of *Prudence*. So to *Sincerity* is nothing oppoſite but *Inſincerity*, or at large *Hypocriſie*, which exceeds or falls ſhort of the Perfection of *Sincerity*. So *Patience*, *Continence*, and *Suffering*, do only go lame (as we ſay) on the one ſide, as namely, by *Impatience*, *Incontinence*, and by *Effeminacy*: So *Temperance* by *Intemperance*. And therefore to put (which ſome do) a ſort of *Inſenſibility*, to anſwer as an oppoſite Vice on

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the other side, is quite without Reason. *For* (as *Andronicus* notes from *Aristotle*) *'tis scarce within Reach of Human Nature to be Insensible to such a Pitch:* And if any Man were so, this would look much more like a Disease of the Body, than a Vice of the Soul.

Lib. 3. *Cap.* 12.

But should it happen, that the Power of the Soul could be so far extended, as to be able to weigh down, and even extinguish the sense of every Corporeal Pain and Pleasure; this certainly were so far from being a Defect in the Soul, that it would rather amount to a wonderful Vertue and Perfection. And to abuse such Perfection would argue either Insincerity, or Imprudence. However, if any Man will needs call it an *Intemperate sort of Temperance*, I will not much contend in the Matter.

IV. As to *Fortitude*, it seems properly enough placed between *Boldness* and *Timerousness*; *Liberality* between *Niggardize* and *Prodigality*; *Truth* between *Arrogance* and *Dissimulation*: Nor do we deny, but that somewhat like to this Equality, may happen in some few other Virtues. But this we think worthy of special Notice, That even from the Instances given, 'tis not very apparent that Virtue, according to it's most Internal *Essence*, is a *Mediocrity*. We rather suppose that according to the Definition given, it is some Intellectual Power is the *Cause* of that *Mediocrity*, which we observe as well in our Actings as our Sufferings. For in these Cases such *Mediocrity* appears: But as to Virtue her self,

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ſelf, ſhe muſt not pretend to go farther than in what barely is Juſt.

V. NAY Virtue is rather an Extreme; And this not only as to it's Well-being and Beſt Eſtate (which *Ariſtotle* himſelf conſents to) but we call it an *Extreme* even as to it's Eſſence and Definition. For how can Virtue, as to it's Eſſence, be a *Mediocrity*; when *Mediocrity*, as we ſaid, is only what we ſeek for, and adhere to, in thoſe Objects about which Virtue is converſant; namely, in thoſe Actings and Sufferings which befall us? Wherefore ſince Virtue is, according to it's own Nature, the beſt of Bleſſings that Mankind is capable of, and the moſt excelling Power and Perfection of our Souls; it cannot be better Defin'd than in ſtyling it, *The very Triumph and Inauguration of Human Nature; or its Supreme Good.* And 'tis no more than what is due to the Eſſence of Virtue, that it ſhould bear this high Preheminence: Wherefore it ſeems defectively ſaid of *Ariſtotle*, That Virtue was only an Extreme as to its Well-being and Beſt Eſtate, but not according to its Eſſence. For even that Beſt Eſtate muſt of neceſſity be Part of Virtues Eſſence, and both concur to the Top and Complement of our Natures: Which is no more, than what the *Pythagoreans* have every where obſerv'd. *Ethic. Nicom. l. 2. c. 6.*

VI. WHEREFORE that Philoſopher treads much more carefully, where he makes Virtue to conſiſt in *Finding* and *Electing* a *Medium*, than when he makes Virtue it ſelf *Ethic. Nicom. l. 2. c. 9.*

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that *Medium* or *Mediocrity*. For this is just as if one should call the *Instrument*, that is fram'd to find out two Middle Lines which hold a continued Proportion, to be the very Lines themselves: Or to say that a Pair of Compasses, which find or make the Centre of a Circle; are the very Middle or Centre it self.

VII. LASTLY, When his Followers declare Virtue to be this *Medium*, they understand it in respect of two Things, which are *Homogeneous* or consonant to such *Medium*. For so *Aristotle* does illustrate it by Examples of *Arithmetical Proportion*, as well in Magnitude as Numbers: Altho after all, he seems herein rather to have found the *Medium Rei*, than the *Medium quoad Nos*; I mean that which is rather true in Speculation than in Practice. But his Affecting to make it *Homogeneous*, is hereby manifest, That, while he calls Virtue a certain *Medium*, he makes it to partake of either Extreme. Thus *Andronicus* (his Paraphrast) calls Virtue, *The Middle of the Two Extremes falling short on the one side and exceeding on the other:* Even as it appears in *Fortitude*, which to a certain Degree may be term'd *Confidence*.

BUT this can never hold: For while he thus turns Confidence into Virtue (which still is defin'd to be a Thing absolutely good) if we suppose that such his Confidence were a Virtue to the Degree of three, it would follow, That such Confidence would doubly excel, if rais'd to

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to the degree of six. But by such Logick, Vice would become better than Virtue; which must never be understood.

Wherefore we suppose, that Virtue is not the *Medium* it self, but rather the Finder and the Chuser of such *Medium*. Nay, we affirm, that such *Medium* is not singly discovered by the degrees of more or less, or of Excess or of Defect; but is also determin'd by other prudential Circumstances, even as *Aristotle* himself declares: namely, *That the true Medium in Virtue, and that which is its very best, must be ascertain'd with regard unto Time, and to Occasions, and to the Persons with whom, or for whose sake we act, and to the manner of acting.* So by this 'tis plain, that to pursue all Cases under the notion and fancy of a Mediocrity, were merely superstitious, if not altogether vain. *Ethic. Nicom. lib. 2. c. 6.*

VIII. I think it, for my part, sufficient, if what Virtue seeks out and electeth, be that which is *Rectum* or *Right*. 'Tis very true, that this Right it self seems also to be a certain middle thing; just as a Line, which is drawn upon another streight Line at Right Angles, is equally the *Medium* of all others, that can be drawn from the same Point, and that unequally vary from such Line. Wherefore the *Pythagoreans* were wont to say, *That Good was Uniform*, and *Evil Multiform*. And *Andronicus* is positive, *That this Right is something, which is of a Simple and Uniform Nature.* *Magn. Moral. l. 1. cap. 25. Nicom. l. 2. c. 5.*

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IX. Let us also add, that this *Rectum* (which Virtue pursues in all things) is termed *Equal*, and a thing which holds *Congruity* and *Proportion. For things congruous are also equal*, as in Geometry is manifest. So that all these things point at a *Mediocrity:* For what is greater or less than another, is not congruous. And therefore that ought to be the *Medium*, which is neither more or less; and which is also called *Equality*.

Andronicus, l. 5. c. 4.

Upon the whole Matter, let us agree how far Virtue consists in a *Mediocrity* or *Medium*. 'Tis not that she her self is that *Medium*; but that our Souls do, by her Aid, elect that which is congruous, or in the Middle: For thus only can that Sentence be true and solid.

X. But now the Difficulty remaining will be, to establish something, unto which this *Rectitude* and *Congruity* (which Virtue every where seeks) is to conform. *Aristotle* says, *That what is congruous to Right Reason is right.* And again, *That the Medium, in every thing, is what Right Reason declares to be such.* And so in his Definition of Virtue, *That* 'tis *bounded with Reason*: And he adds also, *Even as a prudent Man shall determine thereof.* As if by those Words he would stop any farther Inquiry, what kind of thing this Right Reason was, by which that which is right and congruous should be try'd.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 6. c. 1.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 2. c. 6.

Now, according to *Aristotle*, *Right Reason is that which is conformable to Prudence.* But then he himself elsewhere defines *Prudence*,

Ethic. Nicom. l. 6. c. 5.

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dence, To be a true Habit, exerting it self in what happens to a Man good or bad, according to Reason. But surely this sounds very odd, and is no better than a trifling Circle, to define Right Reason by Prudence, and Prudence again by Right Reason.

XI. HOWEVER, if there be but Recourse had to that Definition of *Prudence*, which we before have delivered, the point will be fully resolv'd: For it will from thence appear that whoever is *prudent* is also of a Mind so cleans'd and defecated, that the Light of Truth is not eclipsed in him, either by Passions, or any corporeal Impediments. And, for this Cause, let no Man wonder, if *Right Reason* be styl'd, *That which is according to Prudence:* For if the prudent Man, as to Life and good Manners, have it not, it can no where be found. *Aristotle* (in his *Ethicks* to *Nicomachus*) is of the same mind. *For the good Man* (says he) *judges all things aright; and Truth is visible unto him, where-ever it be; and good things appear both proper and pleasant in every shape. And 'tis very possible that a good Man grows more excellent, if, while he finds Truth in others, he has cause to think that he himself was the Rule and Measure thereof. But as to Plebeians, they tumble into Error for Pleasure-sake, as counting that real Good, which is really otherwise.*

The same Author has other Passages to the like intent: For he makes *Temperance, the only true Guardian and Conservator of Prudence:* And that the sober Man is only wise, in all that concerns

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concerns Probity of Life. *He does not think that the Motives of Pleasure, or of Pain, can influence or pervert our Opinions, as to the Doctrine of a Triangle, and it's having so many Angles as are equal unto two right ones, or the like: But as to Manners, and the Conduct of our Life, those Motives have, as he believes strange Influence.* Nay, he supposes, that whoever is led by his Passions, *and the Sense only of Pleasure or of Pain,* is led as a blind Man that has lost his Eyes; *and in whom the very Principles for his Direction are extinguish'd.*

Eth. Nic. L. 6. c. 5.

XII. Let us therefore here applaud this wise Philosopher, for that Variety of Truth and of Utility, which redounds from this Advice. For 'tis plain from hence, that our Minds, being thus purg'd from Vanities and Passions, can, as in an instant, discern not only all that is worthy and valuable in human Affairs, but what is noxious or of no account. Next, we may gather from it that some things are valuable and worthy, even in their own Nature: since if they were not at all, and had no Being, they could never be seen. But since they are seen and beheld by a clear and perspicacious Mind, 'tis of evidence they are such in their own nature, as they appear to be.

L. 1. c. 6. § 12.

Lastly, to waste time in disputing, whether any thing be (in its own Nature) laudable, before we take pains to reform our Minds in the way prescrib'd, is not only Labor lost, but a sort of Frenzy. And if we shall conclude that nothing is of its own nature honest and

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and laudable, when at the same time we live in Vice and Wickedness, this is to be downright impudent; for we ought first to try, and then to give our Opinion. We have touch'd this point before, and therefore we need not dwell upon it any longer here.

XIII. THERE is now but one thing more, to clear before us all the Difficulty that remains. For whereas it may sound as if we give up our prudent Man to Inspirations and to Enthusiasm; while we contend he cannot in any other respect be wise, than as his Mind is reform'd and purg'd: and that it must also needs hence ensue, that whatsoever a Man so purg'd, shall afterwards imagine, must therefore be according to Right Reason, or Right Reason it self, merely because he thinks so: And that, in short, there must be no other Measure, or Principle; but that his Imagination shall be as the Standard of Congruity and of Right.

Therefore it is necessary (as *Andronicus Rhodius* speaks) first to inquire and find out, *What is the Mode and Standard of this Right Reason? And what that Principle in human Affairs that is just and congruous?* For surely that alone is Right Reason, which to such Standard, Mode, and Principle, can be apply'd; and this must be some Primitive Good, which is not only most simple, but most excellent, and a true *Basis*, *Norma* and *Standard*, for all the rest.

XIV.

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XIV. Now while I am in this high purſuit, I call to witneſs all that is holy, that in my Senſe, there cannot, in the whole compaſs of Nature, be found a greater Good than is that *Love*, which (to free it from all other Imputations) we call *Intellectual*. For what can more fill, elevate, and irradiate the Soul than this intellectual Love? Surely nothing is more exalted or Divine, nothing more raviſhing, and complacent, nothing more ſharp in diſtinguiſhing what in every Caſe is decorous and right, or more quick in executing whatſoever is laudable and juſt.

L. 1. *c.* 2. § 5, &c.

L. 3. *c.* 8. § 8.

Since therefore this is the moſt high and the moſt ſimple good; it ought in preference, to be the Rule and Standard of all the reſt; and nothing ſhould paſs, or be accounted, for Right Reaſon, which from this Divine Source and Fountain did not take its Birth.

XV. And what is all this *Intellectual Love*, we ſo deſcribe, but an inward Life and Senſe, that moves in the *Boniform Faculty of the Soul*? 'Tis by this the Soul reliſheth what is ſimply the beſt; thither it tends, and in that alone it has its Joy and Triumph. Hence we are inſtructed how to ſet God before our Eyes; to love him above all; to adhere to him as the ſupremeſt Good; to conſider him as the Perfection of all Reaſon, of all Beauty, of all Love; how all was made by his Power, and that all is upheld by his Providence. *Hence* alſo is the Soul taught how to affect and admire the Creation, and all the Parcels of it;

Vid. Margin. ſupra.

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as they ſhare in that Divine Perfection and Beneficence, which is diſperſed through the whole Maſs: So that if any of theſe Parcels appear defective or diſcompos'd, the Soul compaſſionates and brings help, ſtrenuouſly endeavouring, as it is able, to reſtore every thing to that ſtate of Felicity, which God and Nature intended for it. In ſhort, it turns all its Faculties to make good Men happy; and all its Care and Diſcipline is to make bad Men good.

XVI. THEREFORE I ſay, this moſt ſimple and Divine Senſe and Feeling in the *Boniform Faculty of the Soul*, is that Rule or Boundary, whereby Reaſon is examin'd and approves her ſelf. For if ſhe offers or affirms any thing that is contrary to the Senſe and Feeling, 'tis ſpurious and diſhoneſt; if congruous to it, 'tis Orthodox, fit, and juſt. So that we need not invent any other *external* Idea of Good; or follow thoſe, who vainly dream of remoter Objects; when as this inward Life and Senſe points ſingly at that Idea, which is fram'd not from exterior things, but from the Reliſh and intrinſick Feeling of the *Boniform Faculty* within. And altho this Idea be but ſingle and alone, yet from thence ariſe all the Shapes and Modes of Virtue and of Well-doing: And 'tis into this again, that all of them may, by a due and unerring Analyſis, be reſolv'd. For as all Numbers ariſe from Unity, and by Unites are all meaſur'd: ſo we affirm, that by this *Intellectual Love*, as *V. Marg. ſupr.*

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from a Principle the most pure and most abstracted of all others, all the Modes and Kinds of *Justice*, *Fortitude*, and even of *Temperance* it self, are to be measur'd: for nothing is so detrimental to lessen and extinguish this Love, as is the Exercise and Infection of sensual Delights.

XVII. Now, in the last place, if any shall object that we have done amiss; and that all this splendid Fabrick of the Virtues is by us laid on a weak and tottering Foundation: As, namely in Passion, such as they may suppose this our *Love* to be. Let them for their better Information, know, that this Love is not more a Passion than is Intellection it self, which surely they cannot but believe to be very valuable, and very Divine. 'Tis very true we may as to this point (with *Des Cartes*) allow, that all Intellection has so much of Passion, as it is the Perception of something imprinted from without. However, as this Perception, which is made by Intellection, is not from the Body, but rather from the Soul, exerting and exciting her self into such Action: So neither is this Love from the Body; but either from the Soul it self, or else from God above, who calls and quickens the Soul to such a Divine *Effort*. And tho this Perception may, if they please, be termed a sort of Passion, yet 'twill derogate no more from the Dignity and Excellency of it, than from Intellection it self: Which, because 'tis an Act of Perception, may on that account be also termed a Passion.

XVIII.

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XVIII. YET when all is ſaid, perhaps this Love, which we inſiſt upon, may not ſo truly be termed a Paſſion, as acknowledg'd to be the Peace and Tranquillity of the Mind: nay a ſtate of ſuch Serenity, as hath no other Motions than thoſe of Benignity and Beneficence. So that this Love may rather be thought a firm and unſhaken Benignity, or Bounty of the Soul; ſuch as has nothing more perfect, or more approaching to the immortal Gods. I mean hereby that State of the Bleſſed Spirits, unto which we ought all to aſpire: and ſurely without this Love, thoſe very Spirits would not be as Gods, but as a Race of Devils. And therefore we may conclude this Love, to be the moſt perfect, and the moſt Angelick Thing of all others; far excelling even Intellection it ſelf. And, in truth, more aptly deſerving thoſe lofty Words, which *Ariſtotle* beſtows upon the Speculative Intellect; where he ſays, *That according to ſome Doctors we are not to converſe with human things, altho we are Men, nor with things tranſitory, altho we are mere Mortals; but, as much as is poſſible, we ſhould affect to live as do the immortal Gods: And this, by performing every thing in ſuch ſort, as conforms to that Principle, which is the moſt excellent thing within us.* Now *Andronicus* (his Paraphraſt) declares, *This moſt excellent thing within us, to be the Intellect.* But I beg leave to call it rather by the Name of *Intellectual Love.*

Ethic. Nicom. l. 10. c. 7.

L. 10. c. 9.

Thus

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Thus I end a Point, on which ſome may think I have inſiſted too long: But the whole will ſhew our Senſe of Virtue; and of its kinds; and how it may be ſaid to conſiſt in a *Mediocrity*; and what alſo is the *Norma* or Meaſure of ſuch *Mediocrity*. The next Step will be touching *Good* that is *external*.

CHAP. X.

Of Good Things, which are External.

I. 'TIS not only ſuch Things as are placed without a Man, that we call *External Goods*; but whatever is placed without in reſpect to Virtue: I mean without which Virtue may conſiſt in its Perfection, altho ſuch things may indeed paſs as Ornaments to her, and as neceſſary Complements unto Happineſs. And theſe are threefold; either in reſpect of the *Soul*, of the *Body*, or of *both*. We will touch upon ſome particulars herein; and ſee how far they help, or how ſhort they fall, as to the compleating of Happineſs.

II. THINGS which relate to the *Soul*, are the *Dexterity* or *Subtilty of the Wit, a vaſt and faithful Memory*: Alſo *Science*, *Art*, and *Sapience*.

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To the *Body*, *Strength*, *Agility*, *Comlineſs*, and *Health*.

To *both* theſe, as they conſtitute Man, *Wealth*, *Liberty*, *Nobility*, *Authority*: And laſtly the *Friendſhip* and *Favor* of *many*.

Of all theſe we may ſay in ſhort, that they are Good, and more to be deſired than the things that are contrary to them: And yet that ſeveral of them are of ſuch ſlender Account, that their Abſence does no more obſtruct the Perfection and Integrity of Happineſs, than Mountains and Valleys do ſpoil the Roundneſs of the Earth, whoſe Magnitude makes thoſe ſmall Inequalities of no conſideration. Scarce do thoſe things add unto Happineſs while preſent, or retrench from it when abſent; inaſmuch as they hold no Proportion with complete and perfect Virtue.

III. I would fain know what great matter is gotten by *Subtilty of Wit*; if a Man be otherwiſe prudent, if his Mind be firm and unſhaken, if he have Love towards his Neighbor, and Good Will for Mankind?

I find *Antoninus* the Emperor, when he blamed his Parts for want of ſufficient Activity, could yet conſole himſelf with this Reflection, *That a happy Life was made up of very few things*; *and that, altho a Man were neither Logician nor Philoſopher, he might yet be generous, modeſt, a Lover of his Country, and obedient to God.* On the other hand, to hear one lament his Unhappineſs, for want of ſuch *high Subtilty*, or *Dexterity of Wit*; is little other, L. 7. § 67.

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than if a Man shou'd complain he was not able to walk, because not able, as some Juglers, to dance upon a Rope.

IV. As to a strong and retentive *Memory*, which holds all fast, how many an honest Man is there that has it not? For, as *Antoninus* said before, so *Aristotle* also says, *That those Noble and Divine Things, wherein Happiness did consist, were very few.* Nay rather that it was but one certain thing, by which the Discrimination was made of things honest or vile, even as all Variety of Colors are judg'd of by the Eye. And hereto may refer that of *Plato, That Truth was contain'd in a very narrow space.* For the good and perfect Man is not so much actuated by a List of Precepts gotten without Book, as by living inwardly, and printing in his Mind a single and sincere Sense of Things. From this alone, he will be able to know whatever Duty lies incumbent on him; just as, by one Candle, a Man may see all the variety of Objects before him: And as all Colors of the Rainbow do arise from the Sun, so indeed the Distinction of all Duties have but the same single Source.

But for *exterior* things, and such as are not reducible into this Diviner Sense: Let it suffice, if your Memory be as that of an old Man, who (as they say) does not easily forget whatever he takes to heart, and lets nothing go that may much afflict him if it be lost.

V. As to *Science*, *Art*, and *Sapience*; we do not conceive they are so very essential unto

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to Happineſs. For tho *Ariſtotle* ſays, *That Science is about neceſſary Matters, and ſuch as are not ſubject to Alteration*; Yet this our Happineſs does not conſiſt in thoſe immutable Things, but in the ſingle Conſtancy of Mind, and in a ſteady Reſolution to proſecute, in all our Actions, that which is ſimply and abſolutely the beſt. And therefore, in that admirable Table of *Cebes*, they who thus purſue Virtue, are admitted within the ſecond Pale; while others have no admiſſion at all into the *Palace of Safety*, neither the Men of Logick, nor of Figures, nor of Geometry, nor Aſtrologers, Poets, Orators, or Muſicians: But all alike, even as infamous or uſeleſs Fidlers, are excluded and ſhut without. *Andronicus, l. 6. c. 8.*

VI. That Happineſs, which is due to human Nature, is a plainer Thing, and a more common Good, than to be calculated only for Philoſophers and Artiſts. Wherefore as *Science* is not to be counted a part of Happineſs, ſo neither is that *Art*, which *Ariſtotle* defines to be, *A rational fabricating Habit.* And by which he ſhews, it belongs unto Artiſts or Artificers. *Ethic. Eudem. l. 5. c. 4.*

VII. Much leſs ought *Sapience* to paſs for ſuch an Eſſential; ſeeing *Her Objects are Things ſingular, ſtupendous, difficult, and even Magical*: Such as *Anaxagoras* and *Thales* of old are ſaid to have ſtudied, and which *Ariſtotle* upbraids as unprofitable, and little availing to the Happineſs of human Life. But as to *Magical Things* here ſpoken of, his Meaning appears

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Ethic. Nicom. l. 6. c. 7. by his defining in that place, *Sapience to be the Skill and Understanding of those Things which in Nature have the chiefest Excellence.* And a while after, *That there were other things, which by Nature were far Diviner than Men; as those illustrious and conspicuous Objects, whereof the World was fram'd.* 'Tis these therefore are those *Magical Matters*, that are called Objects of *Sapience*, and which are reputed more *Divine and Excellent than Man.* But yet for any Science herein, 'tis so far from being necessary to Happiness, that *Aristotle* will scarce allow it to be useful.

VIII. Now altho perfect Happiness, which is that Pleasure that ariseth from a Sense of Virtue, and a Conscience of *Well-doing*, may want *Science*, *Art*, and *Sapience*; yet we must *Lib. 6. c. 7.* also affirm, that such *Intelligence* as, by *Andronicus*, is defin'd, *To be the Knowledge of Principles*, can by no means be separate from Happiness. For 'tis in truth impossible that a Mind, which is purified and influenced by true Prudence, can be so blunt or stupify'd, as to admit any Doubt concerning the Principles of Science.

IX. For what concerns *Bodily Endowments*, we may venture to say that *Strength*, and *Agility*, are more the Happiness of the Bull, and of the Squirrel, than of a Man. Nay a brawny and robust Habit is so far from adapting Men to Virtue, that the Sense of refined Things is often dull'd and suffocated thereby. And it would be as unreasonable to expect

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expect that all good Men ſhould be Robuſt and Agil, as to compel them all to be Racers, or good at Fiſty-Cuffs.

X. As to *Beauty* or *Comlineſs*, the plain Truth is, it has a Charm; for it draws Favor, and ſtrangely turns the Minds of the Beholders: and even Virtue it ſelf is indebted to the Ornaments it beſtows,

Gratior eſt pulchro veniens de corpore Virtus.
Beauty, when with Virtue joyn'd,
Gives a luſtre to the Mind.

Yet after all, 'tis but a poor Ingredient of ſolid Happineſs. It ſeems rather to be another's good than our own. If we had not a Looking-Glaſs, we cou'd know nothing of it. Whereas internal Beauty needs no ſuch help, the Mind is ſatisfied of it ſelf, and 'tis a continual Feaſt.

XI. Health, I confeſs, is one of the chiefeſt Bleſſings, and 'tis certainly neceſſary to complete Happineſs; at leaſt ſuch a Proportion thereof, as may exempt the Body from Torture, and the Mind from Rage and Diſtraction. For whatſoever ſhall either extinguiſh the Operations of the Mind, or compel them to Evil, and there detain them, muſt either deſtroy Happineſs, or make it very imperfect.

XII. Among the *good Things of Fortune*, whether *Liberty* or *Wealth* be beſt, has been a Doubt. I for my part have ſtill preferr'd the firſt; eſpecially ſince *Wealth* implies ſomewhat of a bounding, with which a good Man may well

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dispense. Wherefore the Loss of Wealth would in no degree afflict me like that of Liberty, so as a Competency were but left for Life. And I should think it more Gentle, as well as more Tolerable, to be depriv'd of those things which are superfluous to Happiness, than to be trusted with too much. For if the top of human Felicity consists in Virtue, 'tis much if it be not damnified by Temptations which Plenty draws us into.

In the Cases even of *Want* and *Servitude*, they seem nothing dreadful; if they are but so qualified, as not to hinder the Mind in the Exercise of Virtue, nor to extinguish the Sense of that Pleasure, which a pious Soul takes in submitting to God. For to him, who gives up his Will and Affections to a Conformity with the Divine Providence, there are certain Raptures of Joy, which a Sense of that Obedience, and that Resignation affords him.

L.2.c.10. § 19.

XIII. As for *Nobility*, that this is not needful for Happiness seems herein evident, that 'tis but a Shadow of Ancestors Virtue, which is cast upon Posterity. And if this Shadow be any Thing; how great then is Virtue it self, which can so gild, and for Ages to come so glorifie, a Race of Men by her mere Reflection? Surely where Virtue her self is present (whose Rays could do so much) what Blessings will not this great Parent of solid happiness bestow? He that has Virtue, will stand in want of Nobility no more, than does the Sun of that

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that Light, which is borrow'd from him, I mean, the Light of the Moon.

Wherefore bare *Nobility* makes but little towards Happineſs: But if the Virtue alſo of Anceſtors ſhall deſcend upon their Poſterity, then indeed it has equal, if not a greater Force towards Human Felicity, than if Virtue were deſtitute of that Help.

XIV. But if *Nobility* be not neceſſary to a happy Life, much leſs is *Empire* and *Authority*. For no Man will hold, that Princes only and Magiſtrates are happy; ſince the Number of them is ſo few, in reſpect of other Mortals: ſince alſo they are vexed with Cares, and incompaſs'd about with Dangers.

XV. Lastly, As to *Friendſhip*, it muſt be confeſs'd, that Favor, and the good Will of Men, adds a wonderful Complacency to Life, as well as Security. And indeed Virtue can hardly ſtand without it; eſpecially if ſuch *Friendſhip* be attended with perfect Sincerity, and with a certain ſweetneſs of Behaviour and Benignity of Mind. Beſides all Men of Probity are in a ſort confederated; and being by Virtue, as by a Mark of Diſtinction put conſtantly in mind of the Relation and Conſanguinity which ties them together, they look upon themſelves as obliged, to cheriſh and aſſiſt each other.

But if it be a Man's hard Hap, to live and converſe only among the wicked, we muſt then depend upon the Protection of the Laws. For, as *Ariſtotle* rightly takes notice, *the Rules* *Lib.* 1. *c.* 7.

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of Policy and the Doctrines of Morality, do all aim at the same thing. And *Andronicus* handsomly expounds it, saying, *That the same Advantage is sought for, as well from every single Man, as from the City or Government.* So that a good Man will want but little as to solid Felicity, if he may get what belongs to him even by Natural Right. Nor does that celebrated Example of *Damon* and *Pythias* seem more to refer to *Friendship*, than it does to *Justice* and *Equity*.

Wherefore Virtue, and especially among good Men, or in a good Government, seems not to want, or stand in need of more Favor, than she is able to prevail for, upon her own Account.

XVI. However, that I may disguise Nothing, it is manifest, that Iniquity is sometimes interwoven in the very Texture of the Laws, and in those more especially that have regard unto Religion. And it often happens that for the Cause of Truth and Virtue, we fall into the Displeasure and Hatred of Men: For vicious Minds can no better endure the Trials of Virtue and of Truth, than vitiated Eyes can endure the Sun. Of this poor *Socrates* found sad effects; and so have innumerable others, as well *Christians* as *Jews*. In this Case, 'tis certainly more advisable to converse but with a few, and those of the most approved Integrity. But if there be no faithful Companions of this sort, there is no other Remedy left, but to withdraw, and embrace Solitude:

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Solitude: *Which however,* (in *Aristotle's* Opinion) *no Man can be contented with, but either he becomes a God or a Beast.* Yet, in my Sentiment, a good Man, even in this State, ceases not to be joyful, and happy: for tho he be not a God, yet he bears about him somewhat that is Divine; And, while he can feel and contemplate the Joys thereof, he can want nothing that is essential to true Happiness. *Politicorum. l. 1. c. 2.*

XVII. But if it shall happen that Men will still be malevolent, and by their ill Nature give Disturbance even to this Peace and Retirement: Here, I confess, there wants not only the Friendship of Equals, but rather Patronage from the powerful, which might avert this Malice, and retort the envenomed Darts. Yet if none of these may be had; let the good Man, fill'd with the Conscience and Sense of God, betake himself to the Armor of *Patience, Fortitude,* and *Magnanimity.* Let him revolve on that of *Epictetus, Now begins the Fight, and the Olympicks are now at hand:* And let him suffer every Fortune, and Life it self to be ravish'd from him, rather than not persist and overcome. *Enchiridion. c. 75.*

XVIII. Now if any Man shall here ask, In what condition is our good Man left, when fallen from all Felicity, strip'd of Friends, and destitute of all Protection? Let him remember that this Question has not a bare reference to want of Friends, but involves all Calamities, and the highest Desolation that Mortals are

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are subjected to. In this Case we may consider what *Aristotle* has said, in the Words of his Interpreter *Rhodius*, *'Tis true, Misfortunes afflict the just Man, and force him to stagger, and disable him in many of his good Works. However as he bears all with equal Temper, not stupify'd or insensible, but with a magnanimous Soul; the very Splendor of Virtue shines out in the midst of all his Suffering. For since Happiness has its being in the Operations of Virtue, and that such Operations do govern the Life of him that is happy; 'tis impossible that any happy Man can be made miserable, because he will never engage in what is odious and vile.* He also adds, *That the happy Man looks not that all things should flow in according to his Wish, but he makes the best of his present Fortune. And hence it is that he can never be made miserable, tho he fall into the greatest Miseries: For it can only be said of him in respect of Fortune, he will not be basely happy.* But the Words of *Aristotle* himself are a little more dejected, where he says, *That a Man cannot be call'd happy, if he falls into the Calamities of King* Priamus. And yet, even in this Estate, he will not allow him to be call'd miserable.

L. 1. c. 17.

Ethic. Nicom. l. 1. c. 10.

XIX. But altho this more moderate Saying of *Aristotle* may have place in such Calamities as do accidentally befal us; yet where we suffer for Virtue's sake, and by the Iniquity of the wicked, the Reason is far different. For if Man, in his greatest Sufferings, do not abandon God and Virtue, neither shall he

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he be abandon'd by them. The Sharpneſs of such a Conflict is ſo far from impairing his Happineſs, that it ſeems rather to augment and carry it higher: For the Operations of Virtue, in which the very Life of Happineſs does conſiſt, are propagated and exalted by ſuch Conflict. 'Tis not to be doubted, but where Patience is ſo invincible, the Mind is attended and ſupported by ſome Motions, which are not only generous, but plainly Divine. And let us not think of *Socrates*, that it was for vain Oſtentation, but from his Experience of the World (from clear Divination, and a ſolid Fortitude of the Mind) that he pronounced thoſe undaunted Words in *Epictetus*; *if the immortal Gods think fit to have it ſo, even ſo let it be. And tho my Accuſers,* Anytus *and* Melitus, *can deprive me of life, yet can they do me no hurt.*

L.2.c. 10. § 12.

*L.3.c.*10. § 15.

*Enchiridion. c.*79.

And this in brief as to *External Good.*

THE

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THE THIRD BOOK.

CHAP. I.

Of Free-Will.

I. WE have hitherto treated about the way to know *Happineſs*, or rather *Virtue*; which is the principal part of Happineſs, if not its full Perfection: The next thing is about the way to attain it. And in this part we ſhall be the rather brief, ſince what is hitherto delivered goes far to that End: And we are not willing to have that ſwell'd which we only call an *Epitome*. So then we ſhall here expoſe what may look like Heads of Meditation in the *Search of Virtue*, rather than any extended Treatiſe of it.

II. But before we can well enter into this Province, there is a thing called *Free Will*, of which it is needful previouſly to ſpeak: ſince till this be clear'd and aſſerted, all Exhortation to Virtue ſeems but in vain.

Ariſtotle

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Aristotle has sometimes propos'd a Famous Question, (but *Plato* in his *Menon* handles it more largely) and it hath affinity with this our Subject of *Free-Will*; as namely, *Whether Virtue gets into Men by Custom, or by Nature, or by some Divine Fate* (which is the same as *Good Fortune?*) There are some Men extremely scandaliz'd at the Affirmative Part of this Question; as thinking it a derogation from Humane Nature, to make Men at this rate necessarily Good, and to deprive them of all *Free-Will*. For they judg a Thing voluntarily done, to be of far different Merit from what happens by Compulsion: Which yet (I confess) sounds to me; as if God, who is Good, should be the less Adorable, because he cannot be Naught. For I will presume that whoever is Good, either by Nature or the Divine Fate, is also endowed with so true and efficacious a Sense of Honesty, that he can no more go against this Sense, than that a sober Man should stab himself with a Dagger. *Ethic. Nicom. l.* 10. *c.* 10. *Eudem. l.* 7. *c.* 14. *L.* 1. *c.* 3. §. 7.

III. Were there but a Race of such Men; they were of all others the most fitted for Heroes; and as deriving Virtue from the Gods: 'Tis of such that *Homer* speaks,

——— ——— *Nec eum esse putares*
Mortali Genitore satum, at Genus esse Deorum.

You'd think a Man of such Heroick frame
Not made below; but that from Heaven he came.

Aristotle

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Ethic. Nicom. l. 7. c. 1. *Ariſtotle* quotes this very Verſe in his Deſcription of *Heroical Virtue*; and thinks ſuch Virtue more given from Above, than the product of Human Induſtry. My Opinion is, That if all ſuch Force or Power from above were United; and either by Impreſſion or Inſpiration fix'd in the Mind at once; yet it might properly be called *Virtue*. For, according to our Definition, Virtue is a *Power* or *Energy*, not a *Habit*. And tho *Habit* be a ſort of *Power*, ariſing from Exerciſe and Cuſtom; yet this very Way and Circumſtance of acquiring Virtue, is nothing material, as to the true Nature of it. For if this *Power* or *Energy* be got within us, and operates in our Souls as by a Native Spring or Elaſticity, what matter is it, whether it came by repeated Actions, or by Inſpiration?

L. 1. c. 3. §. 1.

IV. But foraſmuch as the Bleſſings of this Kind come rarely (if at all) to the Lot of any; we need not over-labour the difficulty of this Point. We need not ſtudy Admonitions for ſuch ſorts of Men, who by Nature or ſome Divine Fate, are already ſo well and ſo neceſſarily inclin'd: but rather preſs and convince the neceſſity of Virtue unto other Mortals; who, while they may exerciſe the Liberty of their Wills to either ſide, ſhould be urged and excited by all that can be ſaid, to incline their Wills to that ſide, where Right Reaſon, and a Senſe of their Duty, calls them.

V. THEY

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V. They muſt, above all things, be told of that Excellent, and almoſt Divine Preminence which they enjoy. For while all other Creatures have their Sences ty'd down to the ſervice of the Body, or ſome particular Delights; they can mount aloft, and are enabled by a *Liberty* in their *Wills*, to ſhake off, or gradually deſtroy thoſe ill Deſires, with which they are beſet; and, by the help of Heaven, to aſſert that Liberty, which is moſt ſuitable to a Creature made by God's Image, and partaker of Divine Senſe.

VI. And as this is a moſt true Perſwaſion, and hath wonderful Power among Men, to draw them to Virtue, and alſo to corroborate their Minds againſt the Allurements or Aſſaults of Vice; Let thoſe Men be aſham'd who have ſo tamper'd with Mankind to perſwade the contrary. This (in truth) has been viſibrouſly and ſtudiouſly attempted by Mr. *Hobbs*, in his Book, *Of Liberty and Neceſſity*; but we think his principal Arguments are all ſly'd low, in our Treatiſe of the *Soul's Immortality*, unto which we therefore refer. *Lib. 2. Cap. 3.*

VII. In the mean time, I cannot here forbear, That where, among other Motives, he contends to have Man's Will neceſſarily determin'd to any profligate Action; He owns, that this his Opinion of *Neceſſity* takes place among the reſt. But certainly, if that falſe Opinion have ſuch Force, as to what is Vicious and Bad; it follows, That the true Opinion, touching Liberty to fly from Evil, deſerves *L. 3. c. 1. §. 25.*

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equal Force at leaſt, as to Virtue and good Life: And therefore, that a Perſwaſion, ſo efficaciouſly contributing to our Advantage, ſhould be adher'd unto, and ſtrongly contended for by us.

VIII. But to make the truth of this Opinion more manifeſt; Let us take Notice what this *Liberum Arbitrium* or *Free-Will* is; and then Demonſtrate that there is really ſuch a Principle within us. Firſt, Liberty of the Will, which the *Greeks* call *Autexouſion*, ſeems almoſt to imply, The *having a Power to Act or not Act within our ſelves.* Now in that *Free-Will* is a Principle of Acting within one's ſelf, it ſo far agrees with what the *Greeks* call *Hecouſion*, which is the ſame as *Spontaneous*: And which (as *Andronicus* defines it) is that, *Whoſe Principle of Acting is wholly in the Agent.* Yet what he ſtraight ſubjoins in the ſame Chapter, ſaying, *That in what a Man Acts, as mov'd thereunto by himſelf, he is Lord and Maſter of Doing it, or letting it alone.* This I think is not altogether ſo exact.

Lib. 3. *Cap.* 1.

For a Man may Act out of his own mere Motion; that is to ſay, from ſuch inbred Principles of Virtue, and by ſo ſtrong and efficacious a ſenſe of Honeſty, as not to be able to act otherwiſe, or to draw his Will to any different Thing. For inſtance, an Honeſt Man has Power indeed, by his Wit and bodily Force, treacherouſly to deſtroy an Innocent Man, and even one that has well deſerved of him. But can that Honeſt Man do

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do this Thing? No, God forbid! He dare not let himself do it. For that vigorous and lively sense of what is Honest, and with which his Mind is tinctur'd and possess'd, can by no means permit him to execute so horrid a Villany. Now as such a Person, tho never so much sollicited by Promises and Rewards, starts back, and (in the sense of *Antonine*) stops all his Faculties of Motion, and does not resign himself to so base a Fact; this doubtless is entirely *from himself*, and none else is the Cause, why *that* Advantage is not taken. However, I say, he is not, in this Case, so much Master of his Forbearance, as that it is in his power not to forbear. I grant (indeed) that if he would, he were able to commit so wicked a Thing; but that he is able to Will it, or bring his Will unto it, is what I utterly deny.

IX. We say therefore there is some Difference between having *Free-Will*, and being a *Voluntary* or *Spontaneous Agent*. The former is more restrain'd and particular, and obtains in fewer Cases; the latter is more large and general. When we say that a Man has *Liberum Arbitrium* or *Free-will*, we add a particular Difference to the general Notion of *Voluntariness*, that is to say, We suppose he is such a voluntary Agent, as can Act and not Act as he pleases: Whereas to the being a voluntary Agent, simply or generally speaking, there is no such Difference required. It is sufficient to denomi-

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Andronicus, *Lib.* 3. *Cap.* 2.

nate any Agent to be such, who has the Principle of Action is in himself, and who understands and takes cognizance of his own Actions and the Circumstances that relate to them: Tho, in the mean time, it may not be in his Power, every time he Acts, to Act otherwise than he does.

This now being the Notion of *Spontaneous* or *Voluntary*; we see plainly what is the Opposite to it; namely, every thing that proceeds either from *Ignorance*, or *Outward Force*. Whatever Action is done from either of these Principles, must needs be insportaneous and involuntary. For in the one Case (that of *Force*) the Agent does not act from his own Principles, but is compelled from without: In the other Case (that of *Ignorance*) tho he act from his own Principle, yet he has no Notice of the Moral Circumstances of the Action, which if he had known, he would not have done that Action.

X. But now as to *Liberum Arbitrium*, or *Freedom of the Will*; what we call by that Name is only that sort of Spontaneity or Voluntariness in us; which is so free and undetermin'd, that it is in our Power, to Will or Act this way or the other way, as we please. This (I say) is properly *Free-Will*; and it supposeth a free Election or Choice in our selves: And accordingly *Andronicus* (from *Aristotle*) defines it to be, *A deliberate Wishing or Appetition of those Things, which are within our Power.* For those things (says he) are

Lib. 3. *Cap.* 4.

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are the subjects of Deliberation, whereof every one is Master to do them, or to leave them undone: And these are those very Things, which he declares to be within our Power.

Now this Power of not Acting, when it regards those things which are Base and Dishoneſt, is a great Perfection; But when it has reſpect to things that are Noble and Honeſt, 'tis a great Imperfection: For 'tis in the very next Degree to Acting diſhoneſtly, to be able to incline the Will towards an Action that is vile.

However, to know we are able, and poſſeſs'd with a Power to abſtain from a vile Thing (tho poſſibly we do not abſtain) this is a ſort of Perfective State, and of high Conſequence for a Man to diſcover in himſelf whether he have it or no.

Now that ſuch a real Power is planted in Man, of being able to abſtain from doing ill, tho he fails at ſome times to exert that Power, is very plain from the Inſtances that follow.

XI. We need not bring hereunto any other Help, than what was noted before, in the Chapter about the Interpretation of the Paſſions. For as we feel the Checks of Conſcience after doing ſome things which were doubtingly Acted, and without mature Deliberation: Even from hence it is manifeſt, that we ſometimes Act ſo, as that to have Will'd and Acted otherwiſe, was in our Power.

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And this Power, of abſtaining from Ill, is that very Thing, which is truly called *Free-Will.*

XII. The Reaſon alſo of *Repentance*, is cloſe of Relation hereunto. For when we are captivated by ſome Appetite, and commit what we know, and are very ſenſible, is againſt the Dictates of Honeſty; 'tis of theſe things we are afterwards ſaid to Repent. 'Tis not ſaid, We lament ſuch things as Misfortunes; which they ought in reaſon to paſs for, if either by Fate, or a neceſſary Chain of Cauſes, we were always deſtin'd or irreſiſtibly determin'd to them, and that it had never been within our Power or Capacity to have avoided them. For no Man Repents himſelf of his *Misfortunes*, but of his *Sins*; becauſe theſe are committed by his own Crime, when he might have abſtain'd, and done otherwiſe. But to Repent of *Sins*, which were never in our Power to withſtand; is as if a Man ſhould greatly lament his Improbity and Malice, or undertake ſome ſharp Penance, for not having been Created an Angel, or elſe born a Prince. As to the like Effect we have hinted before.

Lib. 2. Cap. 3.

L. 2. c. 1. §. 15.

XIII. But, in the laſt place, To what purpoſe do we reprehend ſome Men for what they act, pardon others, and have pity on the reſt; if Mankind be deſtitute of *Free-Will*; If it be not given him, to turn away from what is Vile, and to embrace what is Laudable and Juſt: For we might, in point of Juſtice, inſiſt upon it, that if Men are ty'd to

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to Sin, and do it by *Neceſſity*, and cannot otherwiſe act; there is both Pardon and Commiſeration due unto them: Alſo by how much a Man's Sins were crying and flagitious, by ſo much would they become the more worthy of ſuch Pardon and Moral Pity. But ſince theſe things are repugnant to common Senſe, and the inbred Characters of our Mind; it follows of Neceſſity, that we muſt acknowledg ſome Actions, at leaſt, of Man to be *Free*: that is to ſay, that they ſpring from ſuch a Principle, as we have out of *Ariſtotle* deſcrib'd, and which we call *Free-Will*. And we hope no Man will doubt hereof, when we ſhall have ſatisfi'd the Two Principal Objections, wherewith the Champions of the other ſide do ſo loudly, and with ſuch Clamours contend.

Chap. II.

Two Principal Objections againſt Free-Will *are Propos'd and Anſwer'd.*

I. THE firſt Objection ariſeth from God's Fore-knowledg; which (they ſay) muſt take away all Contingency, and, in Conſequence, the Liberty of Man's Will. *L. 1. c. 11. §. 5.*

The ſecond is taken from the Nature of Good, altho but Apparent: For as often or

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as long as any thing seems Good or Excellent to any one in the Circumstances he then is in, his Will is necessarily compell'd to embrace it, because there is no Motive either to divert him, or suspend his Assent. For since the Will of Man is so fram'd, as to bend this Way or that, according to the Weight and Importance of the Object; it seems impossible it should not bend, where most Reason compels, and when nothing is in the other Scale to counterpoise it: Nay, if something should be in the other Scale, yet still that Good which is most Apparent will certainly outweigh. For there is no Reason to be rendered, why a Man should be prevail'd on by a lesser Good, more than by no Good at all: Since if, in the Scale of Reason, that which is Less should weigh down that which is Greater, then a Less than that, till it came to Nothing, would preponderate; and also our Reason and Election would thus be mov'd by Nothing: Both which are absurd to Believe.

Wherefore the Will evermore inclines to that Good which is most apparent; and upon that account 'tis necessarily determin'd to *One Thing*: Whence it comes to pass, that we have no such thing as *Free-Will* in us, and that we could never have acted otherwise than as we have already done.

II. As to the first of these Objections, the Answer is not hard. 'Tis true, we cannot otherwise think of God's Fore-knowledg, but to be every way clear and perfect, and without possibility

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possibility of Error, as to those Objects about which he judges or does pronounce. And surely he does always judg and determine of things according as they are; that is to say, of a contingent thing, that it is contingent; and of a necessary thing that it is necessary. Whence it comes to pass, that those things, which are contingent and proceed from a Free Principle of Acting, they are allow'd to be such by God's Consent. For we ought not to confine God's Omniscience within narrower Bounds than we do his Omnipotence, which all Men acknowledg to be able to do whatever does not imply a Contradiction.

And therefore, to dispatch this Difficulty in a few words: We say that the Fore-knowledg of contingent Effects, which proceed from a free Principle of Acting, does either imply a Contradiction, or it does not. If it does imply a Contradiction, then such Effects are not the Objects of God's Omniscience, nor determin'd by it, or rightly suppos'd to be determin'd at all. But if it do not imply a Contradiction, then we actually confess, that Divine Prescience and Man's Free-Will, are not inconsistent, but that both of them may fitly stand with each other. Therefore by neither way, can any sound or convincing Argument be drawn from God's Fore-knowledg against the Liberty of Man's Will.

III. As to the other Difficulty, the whole Sense thereof falls within this Proverbial Saying, *Nemo est lubens Malus, aut Beatus invitus*;

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Ethic. Nicom. l. 3. c. 5.

that is, No Man is willingly Wicked, or Happy against his Will: Or else into that saying of *Socrates*, *Omnis Improbus ignorat*, That no Man was Wicked, but through Ignorance. Which sounds as if the Will of Man wanted nothing, but the Knowledg of what was Good and Virtuous, to force him to imbrace it: Nay, that the Will was so fram'd, as not to be able to resist that Good, which it did but once understand. Now if this were true, there would not need so much Exhortation to the love of Virtue, as to the Study of Wisdom; Nor would the Liberty of Man's Will consist so much in Pre-election, as in Counsels and Deliberations: and these to be still so Govern'd, as that nothing should prove repugnant to some Excellent End.

IV. WHEREFORE inasmuch as we find that Idea of the chief End, which is termed *Beatitude* or *Happiness*, to be but confusedly apprehended by us; 'tis every Man's Duty with principal Care to find out, in what this chief *Happiness* doth consist, and how we may attain it: Yet whether all this be plac'd within every Man's Reach, is a very hard thing to determine.

We see, the Bulk of Mankind are like those; who, falling sick of a Disease and not knowing how to cure themselves, ought to be visited by others that are in Health, and from them take Remedies and Advice. So the Generality, that see little of themselves, while they are dazled by false Lights and the bare

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bare Apparitions of Good, can never discover, What is the Ultimate Good, and what the most Excellent Object of Human Life. *For* (as *Aristotle* observ'd) *all men seek after Apparent Good; nor are they Masters of their own Imagination; but every Man frames a different Good to himself, according to his Complexion.* *Ethic. Nicom. l. 3. c. 5.*

V. 'Tis in the Third Book of his *Ethicks*, that the *Philosopher* proposes this Question; and yet he does not otherwise clear it, than by granting, That it was some time or other in the Power of those, who now are Blinded, to have beheld what was truly Good; and that Men are not less willingly Bad than Good: But this does not directly satisfie the Objection. Also he is pleas'd to expose it with more Words and Ornaments than is usual with him, as in manner following, *That no Man is to himself the Cause of doing Ill, but that such Things are done by Ignorance of the End, and as Hoping he shall thereby attain what is Best for him. That the Desire of the End falls not within our Choice: but that it imports every Man to be so born, as Naturally to See and Discern that what he chooseth is truly Good: And he, who has this Felicity by Birth, is as it were Inspir'd, and much oblig'd to Nature. For he shall possess that High and Excellent Good, which could never have been had either by Purchase, or by Instruction, had it not come by Birth-Right. And thus to be born, and under so benign a Planet, is the true Perfection of Ingenuity.*

Since

VI. SINCE therefore this *Natural Taste*, or *inherent Aptitude*, which is so capable of Virtue and the Sense of all Good Things, is antecedent to all our Industry (as being the Gift of Nature, and not the Reward of our Care and Diligence) if a Man be destitute hereof, 'tis manifest that the Duties and Performances, requir'd by Virtue, are not in his Power; Neither can the soundest Admonitions find Effect or Obedience with him, unless he be awak'ned by Stripes and Force, or unless he be reform'd by something of Miracle from Above. But whether any are so utterly depriv'd of this *Natural Aptitude*, or by what Fate it befals them, if they are so; is to me so hard and perplexing a Question, that I had rather wholly decline it, than involve my self within such Mysteries of Providence.

VII. HOWEVER, as to those, who are so endow'd as to have some Native Foretast of this high and Excellent Good; it seems to be plac'd within their Power, either to acquire to themselves a clearer and more extended Knowledg therein, or else to let that by degrees extinguish which already they have. Into which Error, if they shall unhappily run; 'tis with the same reason they may be said to be *Willingly wicked*, as of the Intemperate man, that he throws himself *Wilfully into a Distemper*. And of whom *Andronicus* speaks in this sort, *Before the Man fell sick, it was in his own Power to have preserv'd his Health:*

L. 3. c. 6.

But

But when Health is lost by Incontinence and Debauch, it is not in his Power to Recover it. So any Man may throw a Stone to the Bottom of the Sea, but being cast thither he cannot recover it: However the Stone was willingly cast by him, for it was in his Power, either to Cast, or to have with-held it.

VIII. As for those Men, who throw off all Distinction of Things Honest and Vile; who have no other Sense than of the *Animal Life*; who consider only for themselves, be it Right or Wrong; who think that *Good* is but of one Sort, and this only referable to Animal Content (or if, perchance, they think Good to be various, yet still they fix and appropriate all to themselves;) In such Men as these, I do confess, their Will is perpetually determin'd to what is the most apparent Good. They enjoy no more Liberty than Brutes, whose Appetite is necessarily ty'd down to the greater Good: For they have but one single Principle of Acting, and 'tis but one sort of Object that is before their Senses. And in this single Case 'tis confess'd, that the Second Objection has its Force.

IX. But when we consider, how there is a double Principle in the greatest Part of Mankind; the one *Divine*, and the other *Animal*. How that the Voice and Dictate of the *Divine Principle*, is ever for that which is simply and absolutely the Best; and Virtue proposeth, in every of our Thoughts or Actions, that which is most conforming to the Eternal L. 1. c. 6. §. 4.

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Eternal and immutable Law of Reason: Which (in *Tully*'s Opinion before mention'd) is the common Standard both to God and to our selves. When also, on the other side, we consider that the *Animal* Principle dictates nothing to Man, but what to himself is either good, pleasing, or advantageous; that is, what may be grateful to himself alone, tho it never so much violate that Law, or Universal Reason of things, before spoken of. I say, that from the Conflict and Opposition of these two Principles, we have a clear Prospect, what is the Condition, and what the Nature, of that Free-Will whereof we treat. *L.* 1. *c.* 6. §. 4

X. This is a thing, which all Men have experience of, that at some times, and even then when we behold clearly what were best and most consonant to the Divine Law; yet we do not excite our Minds to it; or put on that Courage, which we know we have, to pursue so fair and so fit an Object; but yield and go on where-ever the Stream of Pleasure, or of our own Utility, will carry us. But certainly we have the more to answer for herein; as at the same time we are inwardly conscious, it is in our Power to over-rule all external Motions of the Body. And that, if we would obey such Power, and abstain from acting, there would nothing of that Guilt ensue, which for Self-Interest or Concupiscence we too frequently incur.

XI. In the mean time, while such Men as these do still go on, and still delude themselves

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ſelves with Apologies for their Sloth and Immorality (as either truſting to the Divine Goodneſs for Pardon, or elſe putting off their Amendments to a further Day) 'tis manifeſt, that altho they do perſiſt to ſatisfie their ill Deſires, and poſtpone their Repentance to future time: yet are they convinc'd, it were far better, if already done; and that 'tis equally now, as well as hereafter, within their Power to do it. And this is enough to ſhew, how plainly, even theſe confeſs the *Liberty of Man's Will.*

XII. And thus is it made evident, that 'tis not neceſſary, that Man's Will ſhould ſtill be carried on to the greater (that is, to the more excellent) Good. For it may, according to the Liberty it hath, deſert what is abſolutely the beſt; and either cloſe with what is moſt grateful to the Animal Life, or ſuffer it ſelf to be captiv'd by it, for want of exerting the Power and Faculties it hath.

XIII. And here I do as freely confeſs, that were there no other Life or Law in us, than to reliſh and purſue what were moſt for our particular Pleaſure, and not that which is the moſt ſimple and moſt abſolute Good, (which aſſuredly is ſome Divine Thing, and by Nature congruous and conſonant to that Eternal Wiſdom, which has fram'd and does preſerve the Univerſe) it would be hard to prove, that we had any Free-Will; or that our Will was not neceſſarily determin'd to ſome one thing, which, in

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in all Deliberations, appear'd to us for the best.

XIV. But, on the other side, it is plain and manifest to me, that this Divine Law is as perfectly in us, as the Animal; and that Right Reason is that Law (and it is a high Gift and Blessing of God unto mortals) by which we are taught, and stand bound, to prefer publick Good before our private, and never to make our own Pleasure or Utility to be the Measure of human Actions. And whoever he be, that thinks himself justly discharged from the Obligation of this Heavenly Law; I am bold to affirm, he deserves to pass for the most vile, as well as most contemptible, Creature upon Earth.

XV. Thus much of *Free-Will*, and with what Brevity and Perspicuity we are able. For what concerns the chief Arguments, or rather Sophisms of Mr. *Hobbs*; we have sufficiently refuted them in our Treatise *Of the Immortality of the Soul*: Whereunto the Reader is already refer'd. So that we now pass to those Theorems or Precepts, which are useful in the acquiring of Virtue.

Lib. 2. *c.* 3.

CHAP.

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Chap. III.

Theorems, which are of general Use, in the Acquiring of Virtues.

THE *Theorems* or Precepts, which are ſubſervient to the acquiring of Virtue, are either *General* or *Special*.

And the *General* are reduc'd to three Heads.

1. To prove that we ought to labor after Virtue.

2. That 'tis in our Power to attain it.

3. To add a few efficacious Precepts to that End.

II. THAT *we ought to purſue Virtue, and fly from Vice*, is a thing clearly manifeſt to us by the Senſe and Dictate of Conſcience. Moreover that we are obliged to perform all the Duties of Virtue, is plain, from that Law of Reaſon, which God has implanted in us: for that Intellect, or Right Reaſon, which is in us, is a ſuperior thing; and all other Faculties are, by Natural Right, ſubjected to its Obedience. But the Law of Virtue, and of Right Reaſon, is altogether the ſame. For Virtue ſeeks nothing in every Action, but what is ſimply the beſt, and that which to Right Reaſon is moſt conſonant. And ſince this Law of Virtue, and Right Reaſon, is not by poſitive or arbitrary Thing, but of a Nature eternal and immutable; we cannot therefore

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fore doubt, but we are bound to obey its Precepts and Directions by an eternal and indissoluble Obligation.

III. FURTHERMORE all Men are bound, by the common Law of Nature, to do what appertains unto them; I mean, those things which are consonant to their own Natures. So that Men should live like Men, and not as Brutes; but certainly if Life wants the Fruit of Virtue and of Right Reason, 'tis not manly but merely brutal.

Whatever is in us, beneath Virtue and Right Reason, must not (as *Plotinus* says) be reputed to be of us, but rather as a certain *Brutal Addition*, savoring of the Lion or the Bear, which is to be subdu'd, and made obsequious to the true Nature of Man. For we only are that thing, which is most eminent in us, and by which alone we excel other Creatures. So *Andronicus Rhodius* declares, *Every Man to be that, which is best and principal in him; and that he who liv'd according thereunto, is rightly said, to live unto himself, and to enjoy most his own Life and Being.* But he noted a little before, how absurd a thing it would appear for any one to reject his own Life, to chuse that of another. This he calls *A wild and horrid Choice*; and thinks them guilty of it who prefer Concupiscence unto Virtue: since they exchange thereby the human state, for that which is low and irrational.

L. 10. c. 9.

IV. BESIDES, if every Man be a Debtor to himself, and to his Concerns; and is bound

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by Foresight, to put off and disappoint all great Misfortunes: Surely we ought to cultivate and embrace that Virtue, without whose Aid we can neither avoid the Calamities of this Life, or the Pains of a Future. That *Hell*, I mean, which is threatned not onely by true Religion, but by the very Philosophy of *Plato*, and of others.

V. Lastly, Altho we should not seem ty'd by Duty, to chuse that which was best for our selves (because no Injury, as they say, can be done to a Willing Man) Yet seeing we are not born by Chance, but made and created by God above, doubtless we are his own by Right of Creation. And, he having an unlimited Jurisdiction over us, we are bound to do all those Things, which by his Divine Laws, he has required of us.

And surely his Divine Law is no other, than Eternal and Immutable Reason; which being Right is evermore one and the same, even as the Figure of a Triangle or Circle, that changeth never. This is what the Almighty has put into us: And, in the Words of *Hierocles*, *'Tis to preside over the Soul, as it were a Domestic God.* 'Tis the Judg and Oracle we are to consult in all our Actions. For as nothing is dictated from thence, but the mere Transcripts of the Divine Will: So the Top of all is this, that we shake off whatever is vicious, and apply our selves wholly to that which is Virtuous and Good.

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VI. 'Tis to the like Effect, what the ſame *Hierocles* does (in his Comment on the *Golden Verſes* of *Pythagoras*) declare: Namely, *That God, being not only the Legiſlator who makes the Law, but the Judge alſo whoſe part it is to Expound and have it Executed; does not only enact what is Good, but knows how to eradicate all that is Evil. That the whole Scope of the Law refers to that which is congruous unto God, and profitable to Man: And that this was to be effected not onely by Weading and Rooting out of all Vice, but by putting the Soul under ſuch a Diſcipline of Juſtice, as might purge her from contracted Evils, and reſtore her to the Uſe and Exerciſe of Right Reaſon.* Wherefore ſince this Eternal Law of Right Reaſon has regard to a Judge and Legiſlator without us, one ſo Powerful, and to whom by the Right of Creation alſo we are ſubjected; I affirm that it is not allowed unto us, to be Miſerable; But we ſtand oblig'd by Law Inviolable, to aſpire unto Virtue, and to true Felicity.

VII. But that it lies not onely on our Part to aſpire unto Virtue, but is plainly in our Power to attain it, has been before made out: Namely, becauſe we are endow'd with a Free Will, and are told by Natural Conſcience, That in what we have done amiſs, it was in our Power to have done otherwiſe. 'Tis manifeſt, we have it in our Power wonderfully to corroborate and extend this Faculty; and that either if we abſtain from Indiffe-

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rent things, when they seem greatly to delight us; or else submit unto others, merely because harsh and unpleasing; that so, by degrees, we may conquer all our Aversions to them.

For it seems plainly in our Power, either to move, or to restrain, this *External Engine:* Altho perhaps in those Interior Motions, which old Philosophers call the *first Eruptions of Nature*, our Authority is not so Absolute. But however it be, that Variety of Desires, as well as of Aversions, creep easily upon us; Yet 'tis, in a manner, at our own Discretion, either to turn away from such Objects as are Tempting, or to converse with those that are less Graceful to us.

Did we but, in Things Indifferent, pursue this Course so far as Health and Good Manners would allow; 'Tis strange how soon we should find the increase of Power in our Free-will, and all things, as it were, in our Liberty, and at Command. And did we not over-easily humour our Cupidities and Aversions, they would soon grow faint, and Reason have the Ascendant over them all.

VIII. But there are yet other Arguments to Evince, That it lies almost wholly in us, to become Men of Probity and Virtue. For it is manifestly in our Power to be Sincere; Since here I mean nothing else, by *Sincerity*, than a constant purpose of doing all that is in our Power to the obtaining of true Virtue. But that we should not be able, to do whatever

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is in our Power to do, is not less than a Contradiction: And therefore 'tis in our Power to be *Sincere.*

IX. Now let every Plain and Sincere Man (for his Comfort) know, That he is fortify'd, and girt about with a special Degree of Providence; And that even God is at Hand to assist all his Endeavors, just as *Hercules* (in the Fable) put his Shoulder to the Wheel, to help the poor laboring Countryman with all the strength he had. For Nature is every where replenish'd with Divine Assistants, and Good Spirits; such, I mean, as seek out proper Objects, on whom to cast their Eyes of Favour. And being true Champions of undefiled Simplicity, they delight to be Ministerial to Souls that are Sincere. They do by Good Offices disintangle such Men from the Snares of this World, and lift them from the Impurities of Life, to a state of Safety that is unblemish'd. But for Men of Wavering and inconstant Minds, those they reject; And pass them over, just as Artificers do in Work, those Materials, which are either untractable or unsound. The saying of *Hierocles* is not onely true in respect of Substances, but also of Qualities: Namely, *That the Law of Providence was as Extensive as all the Beings of the Universe.* But if it be to be taken, in general, of all other Men, what he spoke but a little before: Namely, *That Justice and Order had, for the Administration of our Affairs, appointed, That the Immortal Gods, who*

L. 3. *c.* 10. §. 16.

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walk before us, ſhould Meditate of our Condition, and not onely cauſe a Diminution of our Sins; but think how to recal us again unto themſelves. Alſo that they regarded us, as Relations that were laps'd, and were even ſollicitous for our Reſtoration. How much the more aſſured then may we be, that God, and his Holy Angels, will aſſiſt the Sincere and Faithful Souls! Inaſmuch as there is no Bulwark founded upon Vice, that can reſiſt his Power, without being ſoon overthrown, or ſhatter'd into Duſt.

X. Add hereunto, That God himſelf vouchſafes, by ſome Inward Motions, to communicate and deal benignly with us. For as ſoon as we advance to the Knowing what appertains to Virtue, and become *Maſters of the Divine Senſe*, there is a certain Power above all that is Human, that aſſociates with us and gets into us. But as, when Men yield themſelves to Animal-Complacencies, and are dipt in the Impurities of Nature; they afterwards run headlong to every pernitious thing, and ſeem fatally ty'd down by ſome Chains that are Inviſible, ſo as when Remorſe prompts them to return, they cannot ariſe: So, on the other ſide, thoſe who, with Sincere Affections, do even pant and thirſt after Virtue, They on the ſudden are caught up by *that Intellectual Spirit, which repleniſhes every Thing*; They are animated and ſupported by it, and finally therewith join'd in the ſtricteſt aſſociation of Love. So that, to conclude in the Words of

Lib. 3. Cap. 10. §. 16.

L. 1. c. 6. §. 8.

Marcus Antoninus.

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Plato, *They are as Men rapt up, and inſpir'd by ſome Divinity*; and they are eaſily and ſpontaneouſly led on to every Good Work.

XI. THIS alſo is the Senſe of what we quoted before, out of *Antonine*: Namely, That we ſtood bound, not onely to conſpire with the very Air that ſurrounds us, but to concur with that Intellectual Power, which comprehends All. *For* (ſays he) *this Intellectual Power, was no leſs diſpers'd, and even extended to every Man, who was prepar'd to Imbibe it, than was the open Air to him, who had Lungs, and a Deſire to Breath it.* L. 8. §. 54. 'Tis plain, we want nothing for attracting this Power unto us, but that Sincere Love, by which we are taught the true Reliſh of Virtuous Things. For 'tis thus alone we can grow upwards, and have Conjunction with God himſelf; Since Virtue, being the Divineſt of all Things, has moſt Power to aſſimilate us unto Him. Thus *Hierocles* pronounces (in his ſaid Commentary on the Verſes of *Pythagoras*;) *That if an Inſpir'd Senſe be but ſufficiently fix'd and eſtabliſh'd, it gives us a Conjunction with God: For it was neceſſary that a Like Thing ſhould be carry'd unto its Like.*

I wou'd therefore now ask, Whether any thing, in the Duties of Virtue, can be too hard for us, if we are but United to ſo Great and Potent an Ally? Or how can we doubt of God, and his Holy Providence, while his Grace, his Life, his Energy, are felt ſenſibly in us? For it is God's Life, rather than our own;

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own; if by putting off our Selves, (that is, our Animal Affections) we contend and pant after that alone, which is eminently Good: and which onely belongs to God, who equally consults the Benefit of the whole Universe. Wherefore we are not to distrust, but that, being assisted by so strong a Principle, and so prevailing a Guide, we may in the End attain unto the Perfection of Virtue.

XII. We must not, in the last place, here omit, That there are some Methods for the more easie accomplishing of this Work: Such as, *Seriously and frequently to Meditate of our Dissolution; the certain End of this Frail Body; And also of the Immortality of our Souls.* For 'tis impossible that this should not, in a large Measure, extinguish all those Desires and Appetites, which center in the Body; If we but think how soon the Visible Man, and this Corporeal Shape we carry about us, must crumble and be shatter'd into Atoms; how all the present Furniture of this Fabrick, such as Wealth and Honor, and all the Luxuries they attract, must ever and for ever be snatch'd away and rifled from it. Who then would not, in due time, consider how to place a very moderate and indifferent Value on such perishable Things, and strive to wean himself, by degrees, from the Dominion and Insolence of this Flesh! This is the onely Way to bring the Soul to those Operations that are Pure, and to those Pleasures that are Divine;

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having no Reference or Dependence at all on Carnal Things. And this indeed was the Top of all *Plato*'s Philoſophy, which made him therefore ſtyle it, *The Meditation of* Death.

Hiſt. Nat. l. 7. c. 50.

XIII. 'Tis true, *Pliny* perverſly enough intimates, as if this were, *To Die by Wiſdom:* But that, which is the moſt perfect Wiſdom, muſt not be call'd *a Diſeaſe.* For who is the Wiſer Man? He that forecaſts what may hereafter happen; Or he that, by plunging into Luxury and the Train of Evils attending it, ſhall firſt ſubmit, and then be Oppreſs'd? Let Virtue therefore be that Mark, which is evermore in our Sight: Since ſhe alone is Immortal, even as the Soul; nor indeed has the Soul any other proper Ornament or Perfection, but Virtue. Nay, ſuch is the Affinity between her and the Soul's Immortality; that, for the moſt part, there is a kind of Senſe and Perception of Immortality engendred in us, as ſoon as the Soul grows virtuous.

XIV. In the Second Place, let us conſider, *How conſummate and even ineffable that Pleaſure is, that fills and poſſeſſes the Soul in Virtue.* For ſeeing the Diſtemper and Lapſe of the Soul, is from a ſtate of Virtue into that of Vice; it cannot otherwiſe be, but that, when ſhe is call'd back to her Primitive Condition, there muſt be Raptures of Joy, at ſuch Reſtitution. For the Philoſophers make *Pleaſure*, in its very Definition to be, *The Reſtitution to a Natural State.* But

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But ſurely, the moſt Natural State of that which partakes of Reaſon, muſt be Virtue: inaſmuch as Virtue is nothing elſe, but a conſtant Aptitude and Propenſity to the Dictates of Right Reaſon.

To which we may add what is noted by *Ariſtotle*, That this Pleaſure is ours by a ſort of Propriety; and therefore it muſt be both Joyful and Excelling: *For that which is moſt appropriate to the Nature of every Thing, is the trueſt and moſt Natural Delight.* But unto Man there is nothing more proper than Right Reaſon: And therefore that Pleaſure, which ariſeth from a conſtant Dedication of the Mind thereto, muſt in many Conſiderations excel the reſt. *Andronicus, l.10. c. 9. Ariſtot. cap. 7.*

XV. In the third Place, we may here ſuperadd, *That this Life of Virtue, and this Pleaſure reſulting from it, is the moſt Divine of all other Things.* For a Soul, that is got thus far, has nothing farther to wiſh, unleſs out of Vanity, to aim at ſomething which is more perfect than even the Deity it ſelf. But alas, that which is a Creature cannot be God: For all that he can have muſt be by Participation, and through the help of Virtue, which (as all confeſs) is a ſort of Divine Nature and God-like Life. For the Creature, as he is Animal, can onely follow what is grateful to the Appetite: 'Tis, as he is the Image of God, that he proſecutes that which is ſimply and eminently the Beſt.

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Wherefore as to this Point, *Hieroeles*, while he owns both Life and Pleasure arising from Virtue, to be perfectly Divine, does dexterously play the Philosopher in saying, *Since therefore Life, which conforms to Virtue, and so carries a Divine Similitude, must needs be Divine; and that which abides in Vice, must needs be Brutish and Atheistical: 'Tis manifest, that the Pleasures of a Good Man are Imitations of Divine Joy, because his Mind is Associating with God; Whereas that which is styled the Pleasure of a Wicked Wretch, is onely a Commotion that is altogether stupid and Brutal.*

In Aurea Pytagoræ Carmina.

And hereto also refers, what the same Philosopher speaks of that *Reason*, which is the Rule of Virtue, saying, *That to obey Right Reason, and to Obey God, is the same Thing: For a Rational Being, that sufficiently partakes of Natural Illumination, Wills and Covets the same Things, which the Divine Law ordains. And a Soul, that is fram'd according to God, falls into the same Determinations with God; and, by contemplating that Light and Majesty which is Divine, does the same things, which God in like Circumstances would do.*

XVII. Many things of the same Force, occur in ancient Writers, and more especially in *Antoninus* and *Cicero*; which from what has been cited will easily be believ'd. We shall therefore add, out of the first Book of *Tully de Legibus*, onely that short saying, Namely, *That Virtue was in Man the same as in God.* But if the Case stand thus, What can be a more

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more Natural, or binding Conjugation between them, than this is? 'Tis also referable to the pleasure of Virtue and of the Divine Life, what the same *Cicero* says elsewhere, in advising a Man to consult his own *Delphic* Oracle, that is, *The Knowledg of Himself and of his own Soul:* For thus the Mind, being made sensible how exempt it was from Vice, and how conjoin'd to the Divine Nature; it might be filled with Joys that were unspeakable. *Tusculan. Quæst. l. 5.*

XVIII. The truth is, there was little need, thus to heap up, and with the Authority of the *Ancients* thus to adorn, what, as we have so often affirmed, was by the very Nature and Definition of Virtue so sufficiently manifest. For to prosecute what is Simply the Best, and not what is most grateful to the *Animal Nature*, has still been inculcated to be something Divine, and manifestly elevated above the Animal State. Wherefore we must not barely confine our selves to the Best Principle we find about us, but must live up to that, which our Nature, at its full improvement, is most capable of; and that which is truly and really Divine. And this is what ought to be esteem'd the Supreme Pleasure, the Chief Good, and Ultimate End; In which our Soul, as in its highest Perfection and Felicity, ought only to Acquiesce.

XIX. Such Reflections as these, can scarce ever fail to inflame our Minds in the Study of Virtue. And there are yet some farther things

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things which may facilitate, and guide us in the ſame courſe. Among which the firſt Rule of *Antoninus*, is, *That we never meddle with any thing raſhly, or without due Conſultation.*

XX. Another is of *Epictetus*, *Never to act any Thing againſt our own Conſcience*; But that, as well in Small Matters as in Great, we preſerve it ſound and unſhaken. And to this End let another Precept of the ſame Philoſopher be ſtill before us, *Quicquid videtur Optimum, id Lex eſto tibi inviolabilis.* Whatever appears unto you to be Beſt, let it be unto you as an Inviolable Law; For he that once learns (tho even with the aſſent of Conſcience) to reject a Greater Good, for the ſake of a Leſs; 'tis odds, but in time he may learn, even for the ſame Reaſon, to throw off his ſmall Reſidue of Good, and ſo plunge himſelf totally into Vice. For that part of Good, which he firſt refuſed, was equally as good as the Remainder, which he may alſo as eaſily part withal. Wherefore we muſt both early and diligently watch againſt all ſorts of Depravity: For a preſent Sin makes way for a Future; and every Sin we commit makes a Link of that Iron-Chain, by which we are ty'd down to inextricable Sorrow, and to Darkneſs that will have no End.

Enchiridion, c. 75.

XXI. The third Rule is, *That whatever Work we ſet about, let it appear we do not forget Virtue in the doing of it.* There is a double Manner of proceeding in every Buſineſs, not onely

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only a Right Way and a Wrong; but a Gentle and a Rough; a Violent Way and a Moderate. Wherefore 'tis of no small Moment, in the course of our Life to hit upon the Best; and that commonly is the Best, which savours most of Moderation, Grace and *Decorum*.

XXII. Fourthly, *That we do by Ardent Prayers contend, that God would pour into us a sufficiency of strength, for the Acquisition of Virtue.* No Mortal ought to be asham'd to Beg, and to accept from Him so Divine a Gift, from whom he had also his Being. For we dare Affirm, that whoever pretends to Virtue, without Imploring it at God's Hand, will only catch the empty Shadow thereof. thereof. *Cicero* observ'd, *That no Man could be Great; but as Illuminated by some Ray, or Inspir'd by some Breath from Heaven.* And if nothing be of a more Heavenly Nature than Virtue, 'tis then impossible to have it without the Help of God. *De Naturâ Deorum, l. 2.*

XXIII. Nor must any Man wonder, that we annex Prayers unto *Moral Philosophy*; since we have already made Piety an Essential part thereof. *Epictetus*, *Plato*, *Antoninus*, and other Philosophers, have done the like. And here let us observe the words of *Hierocles*, who has in this Part exceeded the rest, *'Tis not enough* (says he) *with Promptitude and Vigor, to enterprize that which is Laudable, as if the success were wholly in our Power, and without need of assistance from God. No, we must Implore* *In Aurea Pythagoræ Carmina.*

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Implore the Divine Aid; and not onely Implore it, but endeavour also to Obtain by our Industry, what we ask in our Prayer. For otherwise we make Virtue as it were a sharer in Atheism and Hypocrisie; or else render our own Prayers Ineffectual. The first of which by its Impiety would take away the very Essence of Virtue, and the latter by Stupidity would extinguish the Nature of Prayer.

Let us hereunto add that saying out of *Socrates* mentioned by *Xenophon*, *That every Undertaking should begin with a Recommendation thereof to the Gods*; and that of *Cicero*, *That the Rise and Source of all our Actions be founded with the Immortal Gods.* Likewise that of *Plato* in his *Timæus*, *That whatever work we take in hand, be it great or be it small, never to begin without first Invoking of God.* And lastly that excellent Saying of *Epictetus*, as to the Government and subduing of the Affections; He says, *This is in truth a great Conflict, and a work merely Divine. Wherefore think upon God, and call upon his Holy Aid and Assistance; just as the poor Mariners do, in a sinking Condition, upon* Castor *and* Pollux. *For what greater Tempest can there be, than what arises from violent Imaginations, such as toss and distract Reason, and by which it is in danger of Shipwrack?* As this Sentence is of moment to the Point in hand; so it appears how many of the other Philosophers insisted upon fervent Prayer: For we do not onely hereby acknowledg him, who is the Fountain of all Virtue;

Xenophon de Administratione domesticâ.

De Legibus l. 2.

Arrian, Comment. l. 2. c. 18.

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Virtue; but we own, that 'tis God onely, that can Bless, and Crown all our Endeavours for it with Success.

XXIV. However 'tis not here understood, that those are the most Efficacious Prayers which are the Longest, or the Loudest, or the most Eloquent; but rather those short and frequent Ejaculations, which the Soul, after long and convincing thoughtfulness, sends up to Heaven: Such, I mean, as are attended with sighs and a vehement Yerning after God and Virtue. For by such pious Anxiety, we exercise and rarifie the Blood and Spirits; we pour into them new supplies of pure and hallow'd Air; we corroborate and augment our inward Sentiments of Heaven, and send up our Prayers, as in a Chariot of Light or Fire. So that as, in these fervent and holy Pantings, we do (in a sort) draw God into the Soul; we do, in like manner, breath back nothing but that which is Celestial and Divine.

XXV. The fifth and last Precept is that of *Pythagoras*, *That we fail not every Night, before we take Rest, to sum up the Actions of the past Day.* Thus if we have done any thing well, we may give God the thanks and glory of it: But, if otherwise, then to repent of the Mildoing, and by this means duely fix and settle in our minds a resolution of acting in every thing according to the most perfect Rule of Virtue.

Mollia

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Mollia nec prius obducat tua Lumina Somnus,
Exacti quàm ter reputâsti Facta Diei:
Quid lapsus feci? Quid rectè? Quid boni omisi?

The obſerving of this Rule would work a ſtrange Reformation in our Manners; and kindle in us great Reſolutions to Virtue.

CHAP. IV.

Things which contribute to the Attaining of the Primitive Virtues.

I. WHat we have hitherto deliver'd, for acquiring Virtue in the general, is in Truth, if proſecuted, of that Effect, that it looks ſuperfluous to deſcend unto Particulars. And yet we will touch theſe alſo, tho in a very few words.

As to the Three Primitive Virtues, this we admoniſh, if not repeat, That no ſort of Virtue can either be acquir'd or practic'd, or even well thought on without them. Wherefore the entire poſſeſſion of theſe *Three Firſt*, is indiſpenſible.

II. PRUDENCE is the Firſt of all; And how this is to be compaſſed, does by its Definition and Explication (in the *Second Book*) ſufficiently

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ſufficiently appear. But as it reaches and preſides, as far as things of Action or Contemplation can go; let us, in our way, refer to the firſt of theſe that ſaying of *Antoninus*, *That we Critically examine our preſent Imaginations, leſt any thing creep in, that is not throughly weigh'd and underſtood.* This he again inculcates by another great Rule; namely, *That whatever falls within our Imagination; we ſhould ſtill frame ſome Definition, and paint out the Lineaments thereof. That ſo we may behold it naked and intire, and what it is in its whole Eſſence, and in every Part.* And this ſurely is the great Buſineſs of *Prudence.* For how elſe are Men carry'd away, or come to be diſappointed, in what they ſhould avoid or purſue; but for not looking round, and not taking into conſideration both the Whole and the Parts? They catch things at firſt ſight, and from ſome few parts, which *Pleaſe* or *Diſpleaſe*, determine the Fate of all the reſt. Thus they become very groſs Accountants; For while they compute and raſhly caſt up what in bulk or value is but part of the Thing (as if it were the whole) they are not capable of Judging; and only diſcover that Precipitation is the Root of moſt Miſtakes. *Lib.* 2. *Sect.* 54. *Lib.* 3. *Sect.* 11.

It were good therefore, to obſerve the Advice that *Epictetus* gave him who was ſo very intent to conquer at the *Olympic* Games: Namely, *That he ſhould well revolve in his Mind, what things were Antecedent, and what Conſequent to that Enterpriſe; and then ſtick*

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close to the Work. And to this belongs what he adds in the following Chapter, *O Men, first consider what the Work is, and then thy own Nature, if thou art able to support it.* For if these be not adjusted, we shall quickly pass as vain Projectors, repenting that we ever set forth, and sharing in the Contempts and scorns of the Unfortunate.

To this kind of Prudence we may refer that most Excellent Admonition of *Epicharmus, Be thou sober, and remember to Distrust; For these Things are the very Nerves of Wisdom.* And, as consonant hereunto, let us add this Advice of our own, *Never much to believe either Fortune or Men: but to trust in God and Virtue which can never Change.* For Men differ, in a few Days, even from themselves; and their Wills and Counsels are not to morrow the same.

III. But as to the Second Branch, about things Contemplative; let the searcher of Wisdom take these few Rules.

To suspend his Assent till the Thing be clearly and distinctly understood.

That whatever Things may be, in their own Natures; yet to afford them in our Reasoning no other place, than as they are manifest to the Faculties of our Mind.

That the inward and naked Essence of a Thing cannot be known, but onely its Essential Attributes, or its Essential Properties.

That

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That Essential Attributes must immediately be in, and belong to the Subject; Nor ought any Physical Reason be ask'd, or can be given, why they are in it.

That the Idea of every Thing, does consist of certain Essential Attributes.

That to the perfect Knowledg of any Thing, such an Idea or Notion thereof is requisite; as is not onely clear and distinct, but full and adequate: so as to comprehend all those inseparable Attributes, which appertain unto it. For 'tis possible, either by Industry or by Neglect, so to think of a Subject, as not to think of any of those Attributes, which in truth are inseparable from it: And this, I fansie, *Des Cartes* has done, in his Notion of the Human Soul; while de *Defines* it *onely by Cogitation.*

Lastly, To distrust him, whose Mind is not yet refin'd; To credit no Masters, or any Faculty whatever, except Reason, solid Experience, and the Intellect (which is the Wardrobe of Common Notions.)

IV. As to the Second of these Great Vertues, which is *Sincerity*; you may, as to Men, weigh it in this Ballance. To observe if you treat them in the same manner, as you would be willingly treated by them: And mind still what is said by *Cicero, That there is no one Thing so like or so Equal to another, as are all of us to one another.* Whence 'tis manifest, that, while Circumstances are the same, we are mutually obliged in the same manner to treat each other. *De Legibus, l.1.*

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But as to God and Virtue, your *Sincerity* will appear; if you ſo debaſe your ſelf, and all you have, in reſpect of them; that you even deſire to give up Liberty, Fortune, and Life it ſelf for their ſakes. Now, if you feel within you a Reſolution of this Force, you may then conclude you are come to the perfection of Patience. But for poor wretched Creatures as we are; ſhould we, on the other hand, prefer and eſteem of our ſelves above God and Virtue; It were ſo lewd and ſo abhorrent a Crime, that this thought alone (if we could but think it) were enough to conſtrain us to be *Sincere*.

V. Nor is the Argument for *Patience* of leſs weight. Since the Juſt, who die for the Cauſe of God and of Virtue, are not onely Crown'd with Immortality, but their Souls adorn'd with Glory; which is a double Reward. And it will contribute not a little to this Virtue; if here we take in, what before was adviſ'd for augmenting the power of *Free-Will*; namely, That we ſet our ſelves vigorouſly to abſtain from all thoſe things, which to the Corporeal and to the Animal Life are moſt grateful: Alſo that, as far as Health and good Manners will permit, we enure our ſelves reſolutely to harſh and unpleaſing things. For if we but firmly maintain theſe Characters, we ſhall ſoon find enlargement in our *Inward Faculties*: We ſhall excite within us not only joy, but a new greatneſs of Soul, and feel our ſelves in a ſtate to enterpriſe every

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very thing that is Honourable. We shall not account we have lost, but only chang'd our Delights: seeing the Soul, by a sense of Adhering unto and Reverencing the Precepts of Virtue, shall attain a Joy not Corporeal, but distinct and peculiar to it self, and be even ravish'd with the Fruition thereof.

Chap. V.

How the Three Principal Derivative Virtues may be acquir'd.

I. As for *Justice*, *Fortitude*, and *Temperance*: We say first, that the principal part of *Justice*, which is true *Piety*, will in the Minds of Candid Men soon take root, if they but take the Image of *Impiety*; and see how Rude, how Barbarous, and how void of all good Nurture it is. For does any Man among us neglect a Benefactor to his Face? Do we not rather load him with Honours, and make our Acknowledgments as profound, and as answerable to his Bounties, as we can? How then shall we put that upon God, which even among Men is not permitted without Shame? This alone, unto a generous Mind is motive enough, and a sufficient Spur unto *Piety*. But for others, let them take warning, lest by Ingratitude they forfeit all Title to Favour:

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vour: Let them, in time, consider that Divine Vengeance will be as diligent to find them out, as they are now drouzy and regardless towards their Creator. Yet as to the manner of Worship, let this be a Rule to all, that we so adhere to God's outward and publick Service; as not to omit our inward and private Devotions, which are certainly the dearest Part.

L.2.c.2.5. We have already observ'd, That the internal Worship is a true *Imitation of God.* And this Opinion is not a little inforc'd by what the *Pythagorean* in *Hierocles*, says, *That we then worship God in the best manner, when we bring our Minds to a Resemblance of him*; *Since what a Man loves he endeavors to Imitate.* And a little after, *That costly Oblations bring no Honour to God, if they are not offer'd with a Godly Mind. That the Sacrifices of the Wicked are but as Stubble to the Fire, and their Holy Donatives serve onely but for Booty to the Sacrilegious.* And as for a Temple, he adds this short Description thereof, *That there is not on Earth a fitter place for God, than is a purifi'd Soul.* And to this Sense, he brings *Apollo* himself, pronouncing the Similitude between Heaven and a Holy Mind.

Æquè Animis sanctis, atq; ipso Ego lætor Olympo.

I do not greater pleasure find
In Heaven, than in a holy Mind.

But

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III. But, having quoted thus much, let us not omit what the same Author more elegantly and at large, sets forth: to wit, *That the wise Man is the onely Priest; He onely is acceptable to God, and He onely knows how to pray unto him. For he onely knows how to Worship God aright, who is arrived to Divine Knowledge; He, I say, that offers himself for a Sacrifice; that converts his Soul into a Divine Monument; and whose Mind is prepar'd as a Temple, for the reception of Heavenly Light.* Here 'tis to be observ'd that the Man whom *Hierocles* calls *Wise*, *Aristotle* calls *Prudent*. But both are in reality the same, as being endow'd with Virtue: For Virtue, which is true and rais'd up to Perfection, and which becomes thereby the Image of God, is certainly God's best Worship. Yet this Inward Gift never contends against those Rites and Forms in Religion, that are decent and establisht by Law.

IV. As to the other Branch of *Justice*, which is *Probity*; and commonly call'd by the Name of *Justice*, in a stricter Sense: This ought to be much in the care of all pious Men, as 'tis a Branch of that Piety, which is a principal part of Virtue; and which had been demonstrated (in our *Second Book*) to be the best way of God's Worship. For *Probity* is the Bond of Society, and of all Human Concerns; and the whole World is in a manner so ty'd together and supported by it, that if this Pillar were shaken, the ruin of all must follow. Wherefore all Men are bound *Lib. 2. Cap. 5.*

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to defend it, and to regard it even as an hallowed Thing.

V. But if any Man who for barely containing himſelf within the bounds of Human Law, ſhall thereupon pretend unto the Character of *Juſt*; we ſhall venture to call *this* rather *Dexterity* or Artifice, than true *Juſtice*. For ſuch an one feels no Concern as to the Publick Good; his thoughts are all about himſelf; and *Juſtice* (which conſults the good of others) has no part in his Meditations; ſince they are bounded and limited by Self-love. So that if a Man of this frame ſhould but live to ſee the Laws laid by, he would ſtart immediately into another ſhape. He, who but yeſterday was according to the letter of the Law, a very preciſe Elder, turns either *Libertine*, or as ravenous as an Evening Wolf. Wherefore let him, who deſires to be truly Juſt, not believe that he is already ſo; unleſs he finds that, if there were no Laws, he could contain himſelf, and ſtill be Maſter of the ſame Deſires.

VI. As to *Fortitude* and *Temperance*, we may here repeat what before we offer'd concerning *Patience*. *Hierocles* calls them all, *The Adamantine keepers of the Soul:* If you diſcharge them, ſhe preſently is betray'd to all Temptations and Calamity. But how neceſſary *Fortitude* is, will appear by that Excellent ſaying of *Andronicus:* Namely, *That ſome things are ſo Diſhoneſt, as not to afford the Ill-doer the leaſt ſhadow or pretence of Excuſe.*

In Aurea Pythagoræ Carmina.

Lib. 3. Cap. 1.

And

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And therefore that a Man must vigorously withstand these things, and not only indure Torment on such account, but even immediate Death.

Wherefore there is no Argument that more helps a Man to study *Fortitude*, and how to acquire it; than to consider how miserable we are without it; 'tis else in the power of every insolent Superior, either by Threats or by Oppression, to make the timorous Man as vile and as obsequious as he pleases. And what greater torment or servitude can there happen to an ingenuous Mind, than (with Guilt and Confusion) to own, that, as soon as the terror of any great mischief looks towards him; he shall not only shrink from Truth and Virtue, but even contribute to betray them both.

VII. As for *Intemperance*, the very Discredit of that Pleasure were enough to deter us from it. He that considers the Dignity of Man, and the great things he is born to, must be astonish'd to see, at how mean a rate he often sells them all! The poor Fly is not more easily taken in the Cobweb, or the Fish deluded by the Bait, or any other Beast fetter'd in a Toil, than is poor Man, whom lusts and passions have subdu'd. Every *Libertine* calls him away, and every impure Rascal leads him about; till at last he grows abject and more contemptible than a Beast. For Pleasure, which feeds and vitiates the Sense, does also by degrees prey upon the Mind:

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Mind: It puts out the Light, and breaks the force it had. Nay, when at last nothing but *Fortitude* is left him (that Sentinel, or Outguard, without whose vigor and fidelity no Virtue can be safe) even here Pleasure attacks him, and like a raging Strumpet that has had success, comes on with Impudence, and will not quit her Hold, till she drives us into utter destruction. So that what *Cicero* said, is no less true than common, *That, in the Region of Pleasure, it was impossible for Men to hold any Commerce with Virtue.*

De Senectute.

VIII. Nor does *Intemperance* onely benumb and bewitch the Mind; but the Body also is miserably shaken and obnoxious to many cruel Diseases by it: So that *Abstinence*, even on Health's account, deserves our highest Care. 'Tis not that here we should assign the Weights and Measures of *Temperance*, but onely speak of what is relative to Health, and to the good state of the Body and the Mind; Since we know that in robust Bodies, which are overfed, the faculties of the Mind are very often incumbred, and oppress.

L. 2. c. 2. §. 3.

IX. Wherefore *Temperance* is so to be cultivated, as more to intend the plenty and purity of the Animal Spirits, than the extension of the Body. Thus that Oracle of *Zoroaster* advis'd, *Let not the Spirit be defiled, nor the superficies be made gross.* Which refers to that of *Hierocles*, who calls this Spirit, by the name of a *Thin-Vehicle*, and a *Body Immaterial.* Adding also this, *That we take a vigilant Care of our* Organ,

In Aurea Pytagoræ Carmina.

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Organ, *and skilfully fit it to Philosophical purposes.*

X. THIS then is true and *Philosophical Temperance*, if we so far subdue the bulk and powers of the Body, as that they may not be able to stifle or extenuate the Sense of excellent Things. And above all, *That the Internal Spirit be not pamper'd and incrassated*, which is what *Hierocles* calls the *Spiritual Vehicle.* His Opinion being, *That our Internal Man is compos'd, and made up, as well of this Vehicle as of the Soul.* Wherefore the *Pythagoreans* made great work about the *purifying of the Spirit*, or *Vehicle*, as by the following words of *Hierocles* appears: *We must* (says he) *by the exercise of Virtue, and the recovery of Truth and Purity, take care of those things, which appertain to the Luciform Body; which is, what the Oracles declare to be the Tender or Aerial Vehicle of the Soul. But the care of this Purification must extend even to Meats and Drinks, and whatever else concerns these our Mortal Bodies. For the Luciform Spirit resides therein; it was that which gave Life to this, when it was inanimate, and is the Conservator of its present Frame. This indeed is that Immaterial Body, which is Life it self, and which gives and ingenerates material Life; 'Tis by this that our Mortal Bodies, which consist of Life Irrational and Body Material, are made up: And thus an Image is compos'd of the Internal Man, who is built out of Rational Substance, and Body Immaterial.* *In Aurea Pythagoræ Carmina.*

XI. IN

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XI. In all which High Words, he intimates, that in our care concerning the *External Man*, which is our *Corporeal Frame* or *Bulk*, we muſt be ſure to bring no Detriment or Contagion to the Internal: But that the regulation and meaſures of our Diet as to meat and drink, and what elſe concerns this Mortal Body, muſt refer to the health or ſafety of the Inward Man. The End being, that this Thin and Lucid covering of the Soul, which muſt ſurely be ſome Aerial or Ethereal Veſtment, be kept free from all ſervile Commixtures with our polluted Carcaſe. And hereto the ſame *Hierocles* adds, *That foraſmuch as to this our Luciform Body, there is another Mortal Body congenerate and affix'd; We are to preſerve the former in all Purity, and to diſcharge it (as much as is poſſible) from all Intercommoning or Combinations with the Latter.*

XII. The truth is, that all this Doctrine about Cleanſing and Purgation even of the Soul it ſelf (and ſo the whole Buſineſs and Import of Virtue) points but at this, that there be Cleanlineſs in the Inward Man, and that the vigor of it be ſuſtain'd. For ſo the ſame great Interpreter of the *Pythagorean* Wiſdom does a while after explain the Matter, ſaying, *That the purification of the rational Soul, was done with concern, and had reference to the Luciform Vehicle; Meaning that the Vehicle was thereby to be render'd more Lightſom and Elaſtic, ſo as it might not afterwards retard the ſuperious flight of the Soul. That the ſaid Purification was*

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was best effected, by divorcing our Thoughts and Meditations from Terrene Objects, and lifting them by degrees unto things Immaterial. That all Turpitude was to be suppres'd; and that we should prohibit all sordid Intercourse of the Body Material, for fear the Luciform Body should be Tarnish'd and contaminated by it. That if there were a Vigilance in these Particulars, then might this Spiritual Vehicle acquire new Life and Vigor; it might be endow'd with Celestial Vivacity; and at length enter into a Conjugation with the Intellectual Perfections of the Soul.

All this can Purification do, when but steer'd and conducted by Virtue; It can Recollect, Resuscitate, and even inspire with heavenly Energy, that subtile and attenuated Chariot of our Mind: that inward Organ, which will afterwards remain its Habitacle, and a Consort inseparable to all Eternity.

XIII. I confess, these things sound as lofty Flights, and yet they are the Documents of the famous *Hierocles*; by which we are taught, that the greatest pitch of Philosophical *Temperance*, is, *To preserve this Vehicle* in a congruous temper to the purity of the Soul; that the *Inward Man* be not defil'd by the Sense of Gross Contentments; Not impotently hurry'd on to concur with Flesh and Blood; nor anxious for Joys that have no manner of Foundation. We are rather admonish'd by such *Temperance*, how this Luciform Vehicle, this inhabitable Lightning, which is also a Body distinct; may be preserved Free, Vigorous, and Immaculate.

THIS

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XIV. This is the very Doctrine, which the same Author mentions from that Golden Verse of *Pythagoras*,

——— ——— ——— *Tum singula pensa*
Aurigam mentem statuens ex parte superná.

Which he thus explains, That *Pythagoras* speaks here first of the Mind as being a Rational Power; Next he calls it *the Driver of the Chariot*, as it directs and governs, not only the Corporeal Body but the Luciform. That this *Driver* which is indeed the Soul, does not onely with a sharp Eye look out, to distinguish the way, and keep within the paths of Virtue: but it holds the Reins with steddiness, both to embrace and to restrain her dear and Luciform Companion; and all, with Intention to direct its Prospect wholly towards Heaven, and to make it thereby grow into a Similitude of the Deity. This is an apt and close Allusion to the most perfect and Philosophical *Temperance* or *Continence*, which allows not that any Corporeal Pleasures should pierce into the Inward Man. For it represents the Soul, as holding a strict Rein against all Commerce that might obstruct the Diviner Joys which arise from a Sense of God and Virtue. And this doubtless is the perfect Scope, the truest Measure, and the highest Improvement of *Temperance*.

But

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XV. But how far distant from this Perfection such Men are, who wallow in Gluttony, Drunkenness, and the impurities of Lust; let them consider, and compare their Cases, who are accountable herein? Let this be their sad *Memento*, that while it was in their power to resemble the Gods, they rather chose basely to degenerate into Beasts. How much Happier had they been under any Severity of Life (even that ancient Discipline, that afforded Nature but a bare Rescue or Support) than by delicious Hours, in Chambering and Luxury to blunt the Sense of all Sublimer Things! How will they Mourn at last, that, by the treachery of Vice, they have undermin'd the very Platform of their Souls, and betray'd that faithful Out-guard, I mean, *Fortitude!* Which, in all Events, should have been the bold Champion and Conservator of all their Virtues.

Let thus much serve in Brief, as to the acquisition of the Primitive Virtues; and those also which are the Principal of the *Derivative*.

CHAP.

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Chap. VI.

Of Acquiring the Reductive Virtues; And first of those, which refer to Justice.

I. AMong the Virtues call'd *Reductive*; those more especially shine out, which have reference to

Justice: As { *Liberality, Magnificence, Veracity, Gratitude, Candor, Urbanity, Fidelity, Modesty, Humanity, Hospitality, Friendship, Civility, Affability, Officiousness.*

Liberality is not to be neglected: Since, on the one Hand, we shew thereby, that our Souls are not contracted to the bare admiration of Wealth; Nor our Minds, on the other hand, so stupid, as not to understand the true Use and Ends thereof.

Magnificence is prais'd by its own works; since these bring Benefit to the Publick, Ornament to the World, and Variety to the Histories of the Time.

II. Veracity must be our constant Inmate and Companion: For 'tis the worst of Characters to be a noted Lyar. There is no Quicksand, or infected Air, more frightful to the Traveller, nor any Wizzard more dangerous to be met withal, than an accomplish'd Lyar.

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Lyar. He will lead you, like a Ghoſt, into dangerous Paths; and, when you are wandring quite out of your Way, he will be ſure to leave you in the Dark.

However, 'tis ſtrange to ſee how the Maſters in this Talent, will yet ſet up for Men of *Prudence*. They are indeed wiſe enough to know that every Vice muſt bear a virtuous Name; and that Fraud and Cunning, will never ſtand alone. 'Tis as with Strumpets, who affect to be ſeen at Church among the Matrons: but as they are the more abhorr'd herein for their Impudence, as well as Vice; ſo ought it be with theſe plauſible Circumventors. There is even a Sect of theſe, who alſo ſet up for Wits; they think there can be no greater Excellency than in the way call'd *Bantering*: Surely the Man muſt be very dull, that cannot Deceive, if he but reſolve to Lye. Yet as he that will deceive when he can, ſhews a Mind that is vile and abject: So the truly prudent and generous Man, is he that will be Honeſt in the dark: He that will be as juſt, when 'tis in his power to be otherwiſe, as if it were not. But whoever notes the Events of things ſhall ſee, that Knaves and Hypocrites are expos'd to ſhame, and end their Lives obſcurely; whereas the juſt and vertuous ſort endure, and their Reputation ſtill ſhines forth as at the Noon-day. Every counterfeit thing muſt be ſhort-liv'd.

Fidelity is much to be cultivated; and how could Human Society conſiſt without it: ſince

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to keep Promises, and to restore what is deposited with us, are the Top-branches and conspicuous parts of *Justice*.

Hence also we may be convinc'd how much it imports us to consider well of *Gratitude*. For every good turn done us is, as it were a Pledg deposited in our trust and keeping: And surely he that repays it not back, as soon as he can, is guilty of *Infidelity*. Nay, *Gratitude* is so remarkable a part of *Justice*, that whoever has the heart to violate this Bond, is thought capable (might he do it with impunity) of trampling on all the Laws of the World. Now who would incur this Character, or draw himself under so dismal a Guilt? There is certainly no Monster that a Man should more abhor, than this Monster of *Ingratitude*.

III. As to the shew and expression of *Candor* in our Converse with Men, there are great Motives for it. First, Because the Errors of most Men are Errors of Ignorance: and yet, even among these Errors, their Minds often labour to bring forth Truth and good Works; a Birth which indeed we ought kindly to assist, by interpreting favourably all their Actions, and affording them the very best appearances we can. For we do, by this soft Temper, help on Peace, and the cementing of Men's Minds towards a bond of Unity: which is so worthy a part, that all Men ought to endeavour it.

IV.

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IV. For *Urbanity*, we must not be so Morose, as not to hear and bear the Jests of others (and sometimes tart ones too) altho we are not good at Jesting our selves. In truth, he that is dexterous in Raillery, has found a Remedy to laugh away his Labour, and a very good Sauce against the fatigues of Life. For tho it was not Nature's Intention, to fit us onely for Sport and Pastime; Yet these, doubtless, are lawful in their seasons, just as sleep, and other Refreshments, to the Body and the Mind: provided always that things of Moment are not obstructed by them. 'Tis to this sense that *Cicero* speaks in his *Offices*, *That the ways of Jesting are very different: the one, Sawcy, Rustic, Impious, and Obscene; the other, Elegant, Candid, Ingenuous, and Pleasant.* And surely, 'tis this last which is recommended to us. However, if something herein should drop, so quick and pleasing to the Company as to cause Laughter for the smart which it reflects; he that feels it (being a good Man) will not so much vex to see, that small defects are insulted over, as have cause to rejoice, that his greater Virtues are at the same time applauded: For he hears the worst that can be said of him, since Adversaries are still known to shoot their longest and sharpest Arrows. And here we refer to what (in our *First Book*) was said of the *Interpretation of Passions*; which may farther illustrate this Point. *L.* 1. *c.* 11. § 2. 3.

But if some rude and ill-natur'd Man shall perhaps bear over-hard upon us, and both jest

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and ſting together; We muſt then do what we can, to cure the ſubject matter, and draw out that Core, in which his Darts are fix'd.

V. MODESTY muſt attend all our Actions; 'tis the Flower, the Beauty of *Juſtice*, and even its chief Perfection: This we have already ſet forth, and it needs not be repeated. *L. 2. c. 8. §. 11.*

But *Humanity* does challenge a moſt principal regard among all the other Virtues. We are all, as it were, linked in one common chain of Equality; nor is one man to think himſelf ſo very preferable to another; when, in things of Paſſion and of Reaſon, in Death and Immortality, we ſeem all to ſhare alike. He therefore that contemns another, and forgets that way of Treatment, which *Candor* and *Humanity* demands, he ſeems to give Sentence againſt himſelf. For 'twill be as lawful at another time, and when Circumſtances are alike, to refuſe to him thoſe common Perquiſites of Human Nature; ſeeing in his turn he refuſed them to others. So that whoever arrogates to himſelf a great Preheminence above his Fellow-Creatures, does but expoſe his Vanity, and takes pains to be Ridiculous. Let no man, of how mean a Condition ſoever, if he be a good Man, and has not by his Follies loſt all Title to the Rights of Human Nature, be treated with Contumely. 'Tis the ſaying of *Heraclitus*, *Enter, Gentlemen, even here the Gods inhabit*: Which may truly be ſaid of the pooreſt Man living, ſo that his

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his Heart be but ſound and Juſt. For (beſides that Prerogative, which is common to Mankind) ſuch an one ſhould be regarded with Love and Tenderneſs, and as it were ſome Creature that were even Holy and Divine.

VI. For *Hoſpitality*, it will ſtand leſs in need of Recommendation, as 'tis a manifeſt part of *Humanity*. It ſeems to be moſt needful there, where Strangers are liable to be ill us'd by the Natives, and where they want the things of Accommodation they were us'd to find at Home. Theſe therefore we ſhould ſtrive to Help and Succour, in all they can need at our Hands: Not forgetting that even Holy Angels are thus employ'd, whom we ought to imitate. For they, during this Earthly pilgrimage of our Souls; do ſeaſonably ſtep in, both to relieve and ſuccour us, when we are moſt diſtreſs'd.

VII. For what concerns *Friendſhip* and *Friends*, theſe are carefully to be Acquir'd; and not barely as Ornaments, but as Bulwarks in Human Life. If you light on ſuch as deſerve your fervent Love; place it rather on their Virtues, than their Perſons, which are both mutable and mortal. Let not your *Friendſhip* conſiſt, in ſoft and unprofitable ſtrains; nor in vehemency of Paſſion, which would bring many a ſtorm and diſorder to your Mind. But let the Character of it be *Sincere* and *Conſtant*, and ſuch as fulfills all the Duties appertaining thereto, with a chearful and officious Benignity.

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VIII. LASTLY, As to *Civility*, *Affability*, and *Officiousness*; these are all to be regarded, not onely as Credentials, which procure us Fame and good Will: but they very often become the very Essential Knots of that Peace and Friendship which we enjoy. Therefore let no Man neglect, and much less despise these smaller Virtues; which often, as smaller Wires, sustain much weight. We do by them live more pleasantly among our Neighbours; our security becomes the greater and our Favour and Credit with Men is thereby increas'd. And who would not wear such things about him, as make him welcom where-e'er he comes, and cost him nothing the Carriage?

CHAP. VII.

Of Acquiring those Virtues, which are referable to Fortitude.

I. THESE are the Virtues, which appertain to

Fortitude: { *Magnanimity, Generosity, Lenity, Constancy, Diligence, Vivacity, Presence of Mind, Stoutness, Virility or Manhood.*

'Tis

'Tis the praise of *Magnanimity*, that it does not disquiet the Mind with minute or numerous Cares; but rather lifts it up to the Ambition of doing great and excellent things, whereof the number can be but small. They that know the Dignity of Humane Nature, and what it is capable of, think it loss and derogation to be ingag'd in Trifles. So that as nothing is higher or greater than God and Virtue, 'tis in the Veneration of these Objects, our Minds and Wills are by this Virtue confirm'd and underprop'd; And by it we are also reclaim'd, from wandring into things which are but mean and vulgar.

Moreover, what we did before attribute unto *Magnificence*, is equally applicable to this Virtue: Namely, that the great Acts and Atchievements hereof, redound to the service of the Publick, and adorn both the World and the Chronicles of the Age.

II. The benefit and prefection of *Generosity*, appears in this, that a Man is not govern'd herein by popular Applause, or the Itch of common Glory; but acting sincerely and with Conscience, towards Virtue and true Beatitude, his Mind is satisfi'd and corroborated in his Work. Nay, altho the Malice and Clamour of all Mankind were broke loose against him, yet he will stand firm to Virtue, and maintain Truth with an unshaken Courage.

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'Tis very true that often, in the pursuit of Virtue; as well the desire of Fame and Glory, as the fear of Shame and Reproach, have their benefit and Effects. But when Virtue is once attain'd, and that we are in the actual possession thereof, then those things are but as mere Scaffolding, to be remov'd or burnt.

III. This Virtue is therefore of the more high Account, as it is the true Guardian and Sentinel upon all the rest. It should especially be cultivated by young Men, whom either Nature, or an honest Ambition, has excited to excel their Fellows. For the blundering Men, and the Vicious, make a strong Party in the World, and they conspire how to scoff the Industrious out of Countenance. And it comes to pass that many a Good-Natur'd Man is by shame run down, and laugh'd into a compliance with those things, which yet he does inwardly detest. But let such honest Candidates remember, that if this Trick could have prevail'd on all that went before them, never had any Man been Eminent, or attain'd to Glory: That as it is stout both to bear, and even scorn at, Reproach for Virtue's sake; so it is mean and cowardly, to humour those, who either craftily tempt, or haughtily expect, that you make up part of their Train in their unlawful ways. There want not, in the World, Companions and Associates of a better stamp, tho not so numerous, or so easily met with in the Streets: but

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but they are worth the ſearching for. And as to the other ſort of Men, who are ſo Impudent, as to become mere Advocates for things that are Vile: Remember, in ſhort, the better advice of *Pythagoras*,

——— ——— *Summè reverere Teipſum.*

IV. LENITY, or a Calmneſs of Mind, is even in this Regard extremely valuable, that it is a ſort of Buckler againſt the Scoffs and Injuries of all Men. This was noted by *Marcus Antoninus*, in that Famous Saying, *That Lenity was an Invincible Thing, provided it were Genuin, and not Counterfeit, as ſome grave Scorners make it.* No Shield is ſo availing to the Mind's Tranquillity, as is this Calmneſs, and true Lenity: Nor does any thing require it, or ſupport it more, than to reflect that few Men ever offend us either in word or deed, but it ariſes from their Ignorance. Wherefore the *Stoicks*, and followers of *Socrates*, were wont of ſuch men to ſay, *Sic ille opinatur*; ſuch is his Opinion. And *omnis improbus ignorat*, A wicked man knows not what he does. *Lib.* 1. §. 18.

V. CONSTANCY we muſt have; for elſe we ſhall ſeem to act at hazard; and to have neither Reaſon nor Virtue for our Guide.

——— ——— *Semper, qui bonus eſt, bonus eſt.*

He who is truly Good, is always Good.

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But he that is now Good, and then Bad, is not govern'd by ſteady Principles, but the laſt Impreſſion governs him.

VI. Lastly, *Diligence* is a certain chearful Servant or Solliciter, that attends upon all the other Virtues, and muſt therefore be careſs'd. We may call it even the Maſter and Moderator of all our External Actions; Inaſmuch as it knows how to excite our Bodies, and all the parts thereof, to ſuch Activity, as the duty and buſineſs of our Life requires.

VII. The Reſidue of thoſe Virtues, which refer to *Fortitude*, have ſo cloſe an Affinity with theſe, which we here explain, that it were needleſs to ſet them off with any new Teſtimonial. For they are as the very Offſpring of *Diligence*, *Conſtancy*, or *Magnanimity*.

CHAP.

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Chap. VIII.

Of Acquiring those Virtues, which refer to Temperance; *And about exciting the Divine Love.*

I. THERE are Referable unto

Temperance, { *Frugality, Humility, Austerity, Modesty.* *Andronicus* also adds *Slender and uncompounded Diet, Unblameable Gesture*; and, *A Contented Mind.*

Of which that about *Slender-Diet* and *Contentment*, are as it were the Sorts and Methods of *Frugality*: even as that of *Gesture* is of *Modesty*.

II. Frugality has this Commendation, that 'tis the Parent, or at least the Companion of Sobriety; As also a Cure against Diseases and Poverty. 'Tis attended by Consideration and Prudence; lest that, spending profusely and living beyond our Stocks, we be disabled not onely from entertaining our Friends in a frugal way, but driven to live wholly upon them: which of all Conditions were the most miserable. So that, in Contemplation hereof, we may affirm, that true *Frugality* has an Eye unto Generosity it self; and that there is an Honest Greatness of the Soul, concern'd in the true Conduct of this Virtue.

III The

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III. The same Reflection is fortifi'd by what *Andronicus* says of those bordering Virtues that refer to this. For he, who can content himself with easie Food, and has no desires of Sauce or Cookery, is much out of Fortune's reach, and does not easily fall within the Injuries of Men. This Virtue sets him as in a Tower above others, and he is seldom captivated by any: For as it is God alone, that needeth nothing; so he that is contented with fewest things, approaches neareſt unto him.

IV. In the next place, *Austerity* or *Gravity*, together with *Modesty* and the Virtues ally'd thereto, are to be had in much Regard: For they do not onely adorn our Life and *External Behaviour*, but really preserve the Mind both chast and unblemish'd. The first glimmerings of Vice, and that very shadow that begins to play in the Imagination, is by those Virtues not onely reprehended, but immediately smother'd and suppres's'd.

V. Yet is there no sort of Virtue more to be pursu'd than *Humility*: Since there are no two Plagues so destructive in Human Affairs, as are those of *Ambition* and *Avarice*. Hence arise Treachery to Friends and Country, the Massacre of Princes, Desertion of Truth and Religion, Frauds (not to be nam'd) both against God and Virtue; In short, All, that can spawn from Injustice, hath its Original from this Source. Wherefore it may well be doubted, Whether the fear

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fear of torment on a Rack, or of Death it ſelf, have ſo much power to drive Men into Impiety, as that inordinate Thirſt, which ſome diſcover in the purſuit of Riches, Honour, and Domination? Conſequently, whether even *Fortitude* it ſelf be ſo ſtrong a Bulwark as Humility proves? By which we retreat, as into a Harbor, where the noiſe and ſtorms of the World fly over us; and where we are neither tempted, nor diſtracted with the dazling vanities thereof.

VI. The word *Humility* ſounds low, and may ſeem deſpicable among the Virtues: Yet is it ſo conſpicuous a branch of true and ſubſtantial Wiſdom, that even *Lucretius* (who did not much trouble himſelf in ſuch matters) was not barely acquainted with it, but has very Elegantly painted it out, in the Verſes following: *De rerum naturâ, lib. 2.*

Sed nil dulcius eſt, bene quàm munita tenere
Edita doctrinâ ſapientûm templa ſerena;
Deſpicere unde queas alios, paſſimque videre
Errare atque viam palantes quærere vitæ,
Certare ingenio, contendere nobilitate,
Noctes atque dies niti præſtante labore
Ad ſummas emergere opes rerumque potiri.
O miſeras hominum mentes! O pectora cæca!
Qualibus in tenebris vitæ, quantiſq; periclis,
Degitur hoc ævi quodcunque eſt! &c.

Which

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Which are thus Translated by Mr. *Creech*:

But above all, 'tis pleasanteſt, to get
The Top of high Philoſophy, and ſit
On the Calm-peaceful-flouriſhing Head of it:
Whence we may view Deep, wondrous Deep, (below
How poor-miſtaken Mortals wandring go,
Seeking the Path to Happineſs: Some aim
At Learning, Wit, Nobility, or Fame;
Others with Cares and Dangers vex each Hour,
To reach the top of Wealth, and Sovereign (Pow'r.
Blind, wretched Man! in what dark paths of (ſtrife
We walk this little Journey of our Life, &c.

But I am not ignorant, how Men of this Perſwaſion, and whoſe Minds are thus elevated, are not only ſlighted, but even laugh'd at, by moſt others: They are counted a ſort of *Virtuoſo's*, that live upon Air, and do not comprehend Subſtantial things.

VII. YET, under the Correction of theſe Grandees, I would fain know, What is it that the High and Mighty do more enjoy than others: who, having Fortune enough, yet chuſe to employ but what alone is uſeful and of Neceſſity. Do the Rich or Powerful eat or drink with better Reliſh, than even that Man that labours the whole Day, and mixes

Temperance

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Temperance with his Sweat? Is their Sleep more ſound, or Health of Mind or Body more robuſt? If this commonly be otherwiſe, why may we not ſuſpect, that ſuch Potentates, and Men of Wealth, are alſo as much troubled with vain Imaginations, as Men that are devoted to Virtue, and the Sciences? If theſe muſt be accus'd for catching at the Air, and feeding on refin'd things; What get thoſe others, from their Heaps and Luxuries, but even Fogs or Vapors that attend them? But whether a thick Air, or a thin, do moſt conduce to Health, is a Queſtion we may put off for the preſent. In the mean time, take what *Horace* ſings, in ſhort,

Si ventri bene, ſi lateri eſt pedibuſq; tuis, nil
Divitiæ poſſunt Regales addere majus.

Is your body ſound and clean
From the Colick, Gout and Spleen?
You may be happy tho you're poor,
Greateſt Wealth can give no more.

Now if the Rich who abound, and the Poor who have no want, are hitherto equal in what concerns the Functions of the Body; 'Tis plain, they only differ in things of Fancy and Conceit. Wherefore if the Diſpute ſhall be, which of the two Fancies or Conceits are beſt, Whether of thoſe who gape after Wealth and Honours (which are ſuperfluous) or of thoſe who adhere to Virtue and true

Horace's Epiſt. l. 1. Epiſt. 12.

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true Wisdom; let the By-standers determine and give the Prize.

VIII. LASTLY, That this Exhortation may not be defective in any part, let us, above all things, recommend the Divine and *Intellectual Love*, as being the Rule or Measure of all other Virtues. Let us, as we hope to copy aright, and to keep proportion in our Ways and Actions, never fail to have this Divine Original before our Eyes.

L. 2. c. 9. §. 14.

And as *Humility* and *Temperance* are the two Powers of our Soul, that most contribute to procure and preserve this heavenly Perfection; So, on the other side, 'tis bodily Pleasures, and an unbridled Passion for Wealth and Honour, that extinguishes the Sense and Appetition thereof. For the Soul, in her own native Constitution, would resemble a bright and Celestial Flame; but these terrene and sordid Ardors do utterly contract and suffocate her Light. So that, while she rushes forwards, in paths of Darkness and of worldly Temptations; 'tis not possible but Offences will come, and that she must have much to answer for, both in reference to Honour and to Justice.

He therefore that will keep alive this *Vestal Fire* of the Divine Love, in the Temple of his Heart; let him be Humble and Temperate.

IX. As for those, who with Sorrow bewail, that as yet they cannot feel any thing of this Ethereal Heat; let them address to God

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God with Prayers and Ardor, for that he is the Giver of all things. However, as bare words and wiſhes have but cold Effect, unleſs we teſtifie by Life and Converſation, the dignity of that *Internal Life* which we pant after and aſpire to; So, the better to accompliſh our Wiſhes herein, let us obſerve the following Helps.

Let us be watchful, to fly from all the Traps and temptations of Pleaſure.

Never to hurt any Man out of Hatred or Malice.

That we help, and adminiſter to the Poor, as we are able.

To ſuppreſs our Anger, when Men either injure or revile us.

To deſpiſe no Man for being of low Fortune or Degree; but where Honeſty and Poverty meet, there even to ſhew Reſpect.

To requite Evil with Good, and to turn off ſharp and bitter Sayings with others that are more Benign.

To take no Revenge of our Enemies, even then when we may ſecurely do it.

That no Mans Friendſhip be ſo rated by us, as to forſake Truth and Virtue for it; or to prefer it to the Publick Good. That is, That we be not drawn to that which may pleaſe our ſelves or the deareſt Friends whatever, on any ſenſual Account; but to conſult our Conſcience, Whether the matter in Queſtion be laudable and juſt, and then to purſue it with Faith and Perſeverance.

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X. Thus you have, what we judg'd neceſſary for acquiring of Virtue, as well in particular as in the general. Wherefore let us cloſe all with that ſhort Document of *Pythagoras*: who adviſes thus, *That we fervently embrace and wed theſe Things; That we frequently meditate upon them; That we diligently put them into practice; For theſe will at length ſo eſtabliſh our Feet in the paths of Divine Virtue, as never to ſlide or ſtumble, and never to deviate, or be ejected from them.* And ſurely to attain this Perfection in Virtue, is to attain the moſt perfect Happineſs, that Man's Nature is capable of.

It now onely remains, that we ſpeak of Acquiring that Part, which conſiſteth in *External Good.*

Chap. IX.

Of the Acquiſition of External Good.

I. We have already explain'd, how very ſmall a proportion of *External Bleſſings*, are abſolutely needful to *Man's Happineſs*. It now remains to inquire, If *Happineſs* can (in any ſort) appear more perfect and exalted, by the addition of all that we have ſtyled *External Bleſſings*: Inaſmuch as Moral Virtues may

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may not a little contribute to the Acquisition of them all.

II. We shall first repeat the chief of them; and then shew how some Virtues, if not all, do help to compass either the very *Blessings themselves*, or at least *Things Equivalent* to them, and such as perhaps we ought justly to value beyond them. *Lib. 1. Cap. 1. Sect. 3.*

III. As for the first two great Branches herein; namely, the advantages of the *Soul*, and of the *Body*, 'Tis manifest that Virtue bids fair even to their particular Acquisition, or at least to their augmenting and conservation. This appears first in reference to the Soul, as in the *Subtilty* and *Dexterity* of Wit, Fidelity and Vastness of the Memory: Also in *Science*, *Art*, and *Sapience*.

For is there any thing in Nature can more contribute to these Blessings, than that Philosophical Temperance, we have already describ'd? When, on the other side, 'tis as plain, that the sharpest Wit in the World, grows blunt, and is made even stupid, by Luxury and Excess.

IV. Look upon *Memory*, and observe how strangely 'tis fortify'd by *Sobriety*, and *Temperance!* How 'tis extended by Exercise, which is the fruit of *Diligence!* But by *Drunkenness*, or by *Lust*, or *Drowsiness*, or *Neglect*, it withers, and comes to nothing.

V. 'Tis true, that neither Virtue, nor Morals do promote us in Mechanical Arts, or indeed in Natural Philosophy, or the Mathe-

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maticks. But consider, I pray, how far these contribute towards *Wit* and *Memory!* How great the Power of *Diligence* is towards every Attempt! And 'tis manifest that, for getting the Mathematicks, there must be a certain *Gentleness* and *Patience* of the *Mind*, to adapt a Man to that Study.

VI. But the Highest Gift of all Moral Philosophy, must ever be allow'd to be that *Prudence*, which has been so accurately describ'd already; and which has certainly a marvellous influence, as well upon all Intellectual Habits, as for the acquiring of *True Wisdom*. And her inseparable Consort is that *Philosophical Temperance*, we have spoken of before.

Let no Man hope, without these two Virtues, ever to attain the knowledg of *Things Divine*, which is the onely *Sapience* or *True Wisdom*. For, as *Plato* has it in his *Phædo*, *What Pretence can the Impure Man have, to the things that are Pure.* And whereas the Philosopher was there contending, as if no Man could obtain pure and sincere Virtue, that had not first laid by his Body; What shall we say of those, who think much to shake off, but the very Filth and Vices of their Bodies? Men, that think a little Industry, and obstinate perseverance of the Mind, will find out Truth, without any necessity of parting with their darling Crimes? But whether this be not the voice of a Fool, or of a mad Man, is not hard to determine.

VII. Who-

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VII. WHOEVER can be Faulty in this kind, appears to me, as a Bleer-Ey'd Man; whom nothing will content, but to be gazing at things distant, and to see them both clearly and distinctly. He refuses all Remedy for his Eyes, but resolves by obstinate and peremptory staring to find out the Mark. Thus he goes on, till, instead of seeing better, he every Day grows more blind: Whereas, if he consulted the Rules of *Prudence* and of *Temperance*, he would know both the Necessity, and the way, of first curing his Sight.

VIII. Is there any Man living has Self-sufficiency enough to Contemplate God, the Soul's Immortality, and Divine Providence? Or to consider of these things solidly and sedately, without some sort of Separation or Abstraction of the Soul from the Body? That is to say, in *Plato*'s Style, *Without such a Meditation of Death, as seems to divorce us from Corporeal Affections?* Or, can any Man, without some such Translation, be (as it were) rapt up into that State of *Divine Love*, which can onely fit him for Truth, and expound the Oracles and Mysteries of things, which are otherwise Inscrutable? For by how much all Sensual and Corporeal Impressions are extinguish'd in us, by the application of that *Prudence*, and of that *Philosophical Temperance* we have mention'd; by so much do we grow Citizens of that Intellectual World, and ascend into the Regions of Heavenly Light.

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Wherefore, *Sapience*, or the knowledg of Divine Myſteries, is the true Off-ſpring of that Virtue, which is entire, abſolute, and conſummated.

IX. As to thoſe Bleſſings which refer *to the Body*, ſuch as *Strength*, *Agility*, *Health*, and *Comlineſs*. 'Tis true that *Strength* is not ſo much the Gift of Virtue as of Nature; tho 'tis as true, that the preſervation of it is owing to Virtue. Nay, 'tis not improbable, but that a Body, in declination of Health, may, by hardſhips, exerciſe, and ſome Fatigue, become more vigorous and robuſt.

For *Agility*: This may not onely be as the Pupil, but even the Child of Virtue: Since *Temperance* and *Diligence*, do commonly wear down the bulk and excreſcence of the Body, and rather furniſh a Stock of Spirits, than of Fleſh. In which caſe, *Agility* muſt ſucceed of courſe.

X. But the moſt high and conſpicuous gift of Virtue, is that of *Bodily Health*; which as it may be owing in part to every Virtue: ſo more eſpecially to *Temperance* and *Piety*. I think it was the *Chaldean* Oracle did thus pronounce;

Ad Pietatis Opus vegetum ſi extenderis Ignem
Mentis, & hos fluxos ſanabis corporis Artus.

Would you the beſt Phyſician find
For a craz'd Body, or afflicted Mind?
Try what the power of Piety can do,
It heals the Mind, and cures the Body too.

For

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For a purifi'd Mind goes a great way to the purging and purifying of the Body: it darts upon it ſome Rays, which have great effect, and which corroborate the powers thereof. Whereas, if the Soul be taken up by conſuming Cares and Cupidities; If Hatred and Malice make all things ghaſtly and ſour within: How can it be, but that the Body muſt alſo droop, the Health wither, and the Force decline?

If therefore ſuch Dilapidations can ariſe from the remote impreſſions of the Mind; What will not thoſe more immediate ſtrokes accompliſh; I mean, Eating long, and Drinking deep and daily, and the inſolence of an ungovernable Luſt?

XI. The Diſeaſes of the Body are, for the moſt part, from the Vices of the Mind; and even the Off-ſpring of ſinful Parents do often inherit their Infirmities, as well as their Acres. But there is no Remedy ſo powerful, for ſuch an Incumbrance, as a ſevere application to Virtue and Piety. For as Juſtice had a Being before all the Vices of the Mind; ſo was Health more ancient than all the Sickneſſes of the Body. Thus is one brought in, by *Maximus Tyrius*, to pray, *O Health, the moſt Ancient of all the other Goddeſſes; What wou'd I give to enjoy thee, but the little remainder of my days!* Certainly, no Man can better pretend to ſuch a Wiſh, than he who is ſincerely Vertuous and Devout.

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XII. And as bodily Health is thus gotten and sustained by Virtue; so does Virtue confer Comliness and *Decorum* to all the Parts. For *Beauty* is but as the Fruit, or flower of Health, nay, 'tis very Health it self; just as Virtue is the very health and beauty of the Soul. For where this presides, the inward motion of the Spirits throws joy into the Countenance; and such sparkling through the Eyes, that the Beholders are drawn into love and admiration by it: Even the whole Body, when actuated by a beautiful Soul, is pleasing in all its Gestures. *Antoninus* said, *That a good Man could not conceal himself, if he did but open his Eyes; For his Benignity and Probity broke out, and reveal'd him to all Beholders.* *Lib.* 10. *Sect.* 15.

XIII. On the contrary, we may easily observe the Crisis when a Man is falling from his native Innocence or acquir'd Virtue, and is warping towards Vice and Immorality; He carries a sort of Traytor in his Countenance, who reveals all he is about. For tho the shape and colour of his Face may look the same to vulgar Eyes, yet a sharper sight will find a fading and declination in all the Finer Parts: that which once was fresh and florid, is now withering; that which sparkled, is hardly bright: the Air it self of the countenance, made up of quick and congruous motions resulting from every part, and as it were darting Life, is now stupid and irregular. Alas, those inward Spirits, that supported all, are sick, and their activity is but counterfeit!

So

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So that, as now the whole contrivance of the Meen and Geſture is grown Artificial, it will in a ſhort time, become alſo Impudent. But this is not the Face of Virtue, or the Image of that *Moral Beauty*, we have hitherto ſet forth.

XIV. For we alſo affirm, that thoſe, who are contending for Virtue, and who ſeriouſly aſpire to the purifi'd ſtate of the Mind; One may even in their Eyes and Aſpects behold a Light and Comlineſs growing on, as a Prelibation of what they ſeek. Nay, where the Face is pale, and waſted by (perhaps) too fervent a purſuit of Virtue and true Wiſdom; Yet, even in ſuch paleneſs and Conſumption, the Beholders ſee a certain Complacency and good Nature which is venerated by them. Wherefore, we conclude, no Man wants bodily Decoration, where that of the Soul is not firſt wanting: for 'tis the Soul that governs thoſe Inward Spirits, on whoſe ſupply and regularity, all that is exterior depends.

XV. Thus far we have ſhewn, how much Virtue contributes to the getting of ſuch benefits, as make either for the Mind, or for the Body. It now remains, to find what help ſhe gives in acquiring the good things that relate to Man, as he is compos'd of both: I mean, thoſe Accommodations of *Liberty*, *Riches*, *Nobility*, *Friendſhip*, and ſuch like. Now theſe being Things of that ſort, which are commonly call'd *the Gifts of Fortune*; we are not to expect, that they hold ſo cloſe and neceſſary

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ceſſary a Conjunction with Virtue, as what we have already mention'd. However that even theſe things alſo are by Virtue moſt eaſily acquirable, is no hard task to demonſtrate.

XVI. First, As to *Liberty*, 'tis plain how every Nation ows to their Virtue and *Fortitude*, that they are not over-run, but preſerv'd from the ſlavery of Invaders. And, even in the ſtate of Priſoners and Captives by War, how many Inſtances have we in the *Roman* Comedies, that, for the *Fidelity*, *Diligence*, or *Prudence*, found in ſuch Captives, their Lords have afterwards made them Free. How much our *Liberty* is preſerv'd, by the obſervation of Laws and *Juſtice*, need no otherwiſe be expounded, than to obſerve, how Traytors to their King and Country, Thieves and Murderers, are put in Chains, Condemn'd, and diſpatch'd.

XVII. But ſhould a worthy Man, and for Virtue's ſake, be thrown into a Dungeon (which yet rarely happens) he muſt not be thought as totally depriv'd of *Liberty*. 'Tis true, if there were Power enough, to ſequeſter him from God and Virtue, this were ſufficient to make any Man tremble, and to make every Jail look horrid. But of this ſort none are capable but men of Impiety, and the Profligate. How vainly therefore do the Oppreſſors menace the Virtuous, with a ſolitary, or even a naſty Jail? Can any Man, that is comforted and aſſiſted by the *Divine Preſence*, think of

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of his Ill Accommodation? Or he that has the Feaſt of a *good Conſcience*, and the Miniſtration of all the Virtues attending him, think himſelf much alone?

XVIII. After all, ſeeing *Liberty* is nothing but the power of Doing as you pleaſe: 'Tis plain, a good Man can be *Free*, whether in Priſon, or in Chains. For we affirm, that he evermore acts according to his own Will and Pleaſure, who has reſign'd both to the Divine Providence, and never wiſhes any other thing may happen to him, but even that which happens. This conformity of the Mind, is highly expreſs'd by the Philoſopher *Antoninus*, *O thou vaſt and Beautiful Univerſe, created and ſupported by God, let every thing be delightful to me, that is pleaſing and congruous to thy ſelf.* *Lib.* 4. *Cap.* 23.

XIX. As to the bearing of Honor: Who can imagine any one more qualifi'd for Publick Truſt, than the Honeſt Man? Are there not a whole train of Virtues, that both adorn and ſupport him? As, namely,

Juſtice, Magnanimity,
Faith, Conſtancy,
Munificence, Prudence,
Fortitude, Vigilance: And the like.

And is there any part of the World, where Men are choſen to Publick Office, but under theſe Characters? At leaſt under the pretence and Notion of ſuch: So as all the Salaries, the Praiſes, and the Proſtrations, that are

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are pay'd them, come in on this Account. Now where (in truth) the Men are even quite otherwise: yet you may reckon them as the Statues and Images of good Men, and as adorn'd with their Names and Inscriptions. And while Worship and Veneration is thus pay'd them, we may suppose, that those good Men, whom they personate, receive it, as it happens in the case of absent and invisible Gods. So that no Man has more a Title to Honours, than the Man of *Probity*: For either he, or his Representative, is universally Honour'd by all Men.

XX. As to the gathering of *Riches*, you will say that a Man of *Probity* is out of his way. For that *Fraud, Rapine*, and *Treachery, Adulation*, or *Breach of Trust*, and the like, do chiefly contribute to the *Heaping* of *Wealth*, and are the most compendious ways of procuring it. But we are of Opinion, 'tis a very foolish Bargain, to pay for any thing ten times more than 'tis worth: And we cannot but think, this is the Case, when a Man shall barter away his Virtue (even the smallest grains thereof) either for *Wealth*, or for *High Place*. There are, as we think, certain Gifts confer'd by Virtue, which (doubtless) have power enough, to bring in *Honest Plenty*, and sufficient *Wealth*: I mean, *Diligence, Fidelity, Frugality, Temperance*, and the like. It was *Cicero*'s Exclamation, *O wretched Man, that knows not what an Inheritance it is to be Frugal!*

XXI. As

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XXI. As for the Attainment of *Nobility*: Whoever call'd in doubt, that there was any other Source thereof than Virtue? Or that *Nobility*, and Virtue, were not evermore the same? But of this, we have spoken more largely before.

XXII. In the last Place, as to all *Friendships*; 'Tis visible, how much they depend on Virtue: Since no Genuine *Love*, or sincere *Friendship*, can be Cemented without it. The rest is all Spurious; Whether it be a Combination, in order to sordid Gain, or Companions of Joy, that amuse themselves with light and transitory things.

'Tis Virtue alone that attracts and retains true *Friendship*: *For* (as *Lælius* speaks Elegantly in *Tully*) *She, when she Exalts her self, when she exposes her Light, when she beholds and approves the same quality in others, she moves presently towards it; and, by a sort of Coalition, joins to her self that which was before in another: And that this is the true Generation of Love nd Friendship.* He farther adds, *That Friendship is nothing else, but to Love without Interest or Design.* And (in his Book *de Naturâ Deorum*) he does a little adorn this Sense, by these further words: *If we turn our Friendship to our own Profit, and not to his, whom we pretend to love; this will not be Friendship, but merely Traffick on our own Accounts.* *De Natura Deorum, l. 1.*

Hence 'tis plain, that there is not, in this Mortal State, a greater Bulwark than Virtue: for she carries a Charm with her; drawing Men

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Men on to Love and good Will: And then 'tis impoſſible, but all their Aſſiſtance, and good Offices, muſt attend us.

XXIII. YET here let us obſerve what comes to paſs about *Truth*: Which, tho it certainly makes one in Virtue's Quire; yet 'tis reputed a ſort of Foe to *Friendſhip*, and as producing rather Hatred and Ill-will. But to me it has ever been a ſort of Riddle in Human Affairs, and deſerving laughter; to ſee how the generality of Men hate the voice of that very *Judge*, unto whom however they perpetually ſeem willing to appeal.

Certainly no firm and durable *Friendſhip*, can ſubſiſt any more without *Truth*, than without *Faith* and *Simplicity*, which are the Pillars of all true *Friendſhip*. *Cicero* ſays, *Neither the Double-minded, nor the Changeable Intriguer muſt be rely'd on for Fidelity*. And let us add to theſe, the Men of Darkneſs and great Reſerve. He that does even moleſt his Friend with *Truth*, has leſs to anſwer for; than a flattering Paraſite, who is obſequious to every Vice, and can indulge, or abet his Friend to his utter deſtruction.

To Men of ſincere Virtue, this *Truth* never comes amiſs: for every prudent Admonition, that is not attended with Scoffs or Contumely, is a Sermon they hearken to with Wonder and Delight. For, as they grow better by it; ſo they have teſtimony of what is very Rare, namely, perfect *Virtue*, and perfect *Friendſhip*, together.

XXIV. It

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XXIV. It were eaſie for me, I confeſs, to be more copious, and dwell longer upon ſuch Particulars: But theſe Hints will be enough to inculcate, How much Virtue imports to the Acquiſition of all *External Goods:* And that, againſt the Changes and Chances of this Human Life, there is no other true Sanctuary but Virtue.

Chap. X.

Of that Good, which is External, Supreme, and Eternal; according to the Mind of the Philoſophers.

I. THERE now only remains one *External Good*, which alſo is *Eternal*. To Heaven it is that we all *Aſpire*, and to the Society of Bleſſed Spirits: And there is no other Path, or Stratagem, can lead hereto, but Virtue. This is ſet forth in that of the Oracle, touching the Ghoſt of *Plotinus*, and its paſſing to the Happy State.

——— *Ad Cœtum jam venis almum*
Heroum blandis ſpirantem leniter auris;
Hîc ubi amicitia eſt, ubi molli fronte cupido
Lætitiâ replens, liquidâ pariterque repletus
Semper ab Ambroſiæ fœcundo è numine rivis.

Unde

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Unde ſerena quies caſtorum & dulcis amorum
Illecebra, ac placidi ſuaviſſima flamina venti.

Which may be Engliſhed thus:

And now you're come to th' Happy Quire
Of Heroes where, their bleſſed Souls retire
Where ſofteſt Winds, do as ſoft Joys inſpire:
Here dwells chaſt Friendſhip, with ſo pure a flame,
That Love knows no ſatiety, or ſhame,
But gives and takes new Joys, and yet is ſtill the ſame,
Th' Ambroſian Fountains with freſh Pleaſures ſpring,
And gentle *Zephyrus* does new Odours bring.
Theſe gifts for Inoffenſive Eaſe are lent,
And both conſpire to make *Love* Innocent.

II. THAT holy Vow and Profeſſion, which was made by *Cato* (in *Tully*'s Book *de Senectute*) has reſemblance with this very Deſcription. For he ſays, *I repent me not of having Liv'd, becauſe I have lived ſo, as never to have thought I was born in vain; and I depart this Life, not as from my Houſe, but as from an Inn. For Nature has not here afforded us an Habitation, but barely a reſting Place. O glorious Day, when I ſhall haſten to the great Aſſembly of bleſſed Souls, and be delivered from this Croud, and from that Dungeon, wherein I live!*

Cicero de Senectute.

III. THIS

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III. This Opinion *Cicero* (in his Treatise *de Consolatione*) repeats as his own, saying, *I am none of those, who believe the Soul can die with the Body; and that so great a Light, kindled by Divine Nature in the Mind, can be extinguish'd: but rather, that after some certain space of time, it will return to Immortality.* Now this by him is so express'd, as if our present life were a sort of a death to the Soul. And the same (in his *Somnio Scipionis*) is elegantly affirm'd by *Africanus*, when *Cornelius* ask'd him, *If his dead Friends should live? Yes* (says he) *they truly live, who are extricated from the Chains of the Body, as from a Prison: For your Life, as you so call it, is Death.* Many are the passages of this Force, up and down, in *Cicero:* Not to speak of what might be found in *Plotinus* and *Plato.* *De Consolatione.* *De somnio Scipionis.*

IV. Now inasmuch as the hope of Immortality, was so plain and conspicuous of old, even to mere *Pagans:* How could we (possibly) exclude it from *Moral Philosophy?* For by this it appears, that whatever external vexations innocent Virtue shall, in this Life, suffer (whether by hidden Fate, or by the Violence, Envy, or Improbity of wicked Men) there will be a just and most infallible compensation for it. Wherefore the Good and the Magnanimous, being exalted by this Hope, look on the World with contempt: They trample upon inferiour things; and cannot regard any human Accidents as culpable, since nothing has regard to them, but what

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is of Virtue and Immortality. 'Tis to this very Sense, that *Cicero* does elsewhere magnifie the power of Virtue.

V. SOCRATES is memorable for this same Confidence and Hope; since in the strength thereof, he was enabled to undervalue both his Enemies and his Death. He, whom the Oracle of *Apollo* pronounced the *wisest Man*, would memorably in this deserve that Character. For, while he doubted of all other things, as to the Soul's Immortality he was ever fix'd. So *Lælius* testifies of him (in *Tully*) *That he was now of one Sentiment, and then of another, in most other things; Yet as to the Point of Immortality, he always affirm'd, That the Minds of Men were Divine; and that, as soon as they departed the Body, there was a most expeditious return of every just and vertuous Soul into Heaven.*

VI. ON this Contemplation, let every Man therefore resolve, that altho Virtue may (in some Cases) appear to be against our Interest in reference to worldly things; yet are we to stand by it with an unshaken Mind: especially since, after this span of Life is past, there will redound a vast reward and gratification to the Just. Nay, let us rather count, that what we suffer in Externals (as, suppose in Fortune or in Health) is rather to our Advantage: Since, if we make a wise use of our misfortunes, and understand them for kind Admonitions (as indeed they are) by how much we are disappointed, or despoil'd, in out-

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outward Things; by so much, and more also, will the Mind be sanctifi'd and enrich'd.

'Tis worth observing, that all Good, which is *External*, must fade and corrupt even as the Body it self: while yet the *Internal Things* are as lasting as the Soul. So that to think, what we suffer in Body or Goods, to be a detriment or Curse, when we are likely to gain by it a more ample and perpetual Recompence; is a strange Error in Accounts.

VII. Nay farther yet. If a Man had bought a thing at ten times less than the Value; Would it not sound odd, to hear him complain, that the bargain had undone him? Even so is it with the loss of *outward Things*: Men murmure at Divine Providence, while yet they acquire such improvement to the Soul thereby, as does not onely govern the Happiness of this Life, but guide us to a better, for all Eternity to come. Wherefore let no Man be too froward, when the crosses and vexations of this World come thick upon him; they are the Gifts and Blessings of a wise God, who best knows what Physick we need for the Health and Conduct of our Souls.

By these Trials it is, that we can only find out the strength and authority of Virtue: These tratings rub off the rust and tarnish of Vice: they ingender *Prudence*, *Fortitude*, *Sincerity*, and all other Virtues: at least they detect our hypocritical and ridiculous Pretences unto them. So that we will conclude, altho these Visitations may seem rude and bitter to the taste, yet

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in operation they are wholesom, and produce Salutiferous effects.

VIII. But now as to such *External Evils*, which can no otherwise afflict the Mind, than by Imagination: Or else, as *Epictetus* has it, *That things themselves did not disquiet Men, but their own false Opinions of things.* I must needs aver, that Men thus afflicted merely by their *Fancies*, so as to make things intolerable, are but poor Proficients in Virtue: It deserves not the name of Virtue, which is not able of it self, to lay flat all imaginary Passions. 'Tis true, it may reasonably be thought that there are some Sufferings above the force of Human Nature; such as bodily Pains, which come by Sickness, that neither can be smother'd, nor dissembled; And that some Tortures are so exquisite, as to be beyond any constancy of the Mind to support.

Enchiridion, c. 10.

L. 2. c. 10. §. 18.

L. 3. c. 10. §. 16.

However, *Cicero* speaks Excellently hereof (as indeed of every thing else) He says, *That Pain is a sharp Adversary to Virtue; It menaces with burning Torches; It insults over Fortitude and Magnanimity; and ventures to subdue even Patience it self. But thus it would not so frequently happen, if the fault were not our own: For Nature her self, if rightly tutor'd and habituated, would prove a sort of invincible Thing. But we alas (the more is our shame) have infected our Minds with Sloth, with Shadows, and Intemperance: Nay, we have so scribled over the Souls with Notions, and odd Opinions, that no room is left, for inserting one sound, or substantial Truth.*

Tusculan. Quæst. l. 5.

IX. How ever

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IX. HOWEVER we may obſerve, that 'tis not above the compaſs of Human Nature, to bear exceſſive Pains, when they are willingly undertaken. We have ſtrange Examples what has been ſuffer'd for Glory, or by Cuſtom or Superſtition: Of which the very true Relations are almoſt incredible. As

X. THAT of the *Spartan* Boys (which *Tully* memorious in his *Tuſculans*) who being brought to the Altar, could bear beating, not onely, till the blood guſh'd from their Bowels, but till they actually dy'd: And all this without Crying, or without a Groan. *Tuſculan. Quæſt. l. 2.*

That of the *Indian Wives*, who (being many to every *Husband*) have contended, even to the tearing off Hair, which of them ſhould go into the Fire alive, and burn with the dead Man.

That of the *Egyptians*, who would rather be executed themſelves, than kill a Stork, an Aſp, a Dog, or a Cat. *Tuſculan. Quæſt. l. 5*

There are alſo, among the *Turks* and *Americans*, amazing Inſtances of ſpontaneous Suffering; Some on ſuperſtitious Accounts, and others for Oſtentation. And almoſt all Hiſtories do ſwarm with Examples of this kind.

XI. Now, I ſay, if Nature, thus Rude, thus Illiterate, thus Barbarous and unprovided, thus inſenſible of true Virtue or of Excellent Things, could in patience and firmneſs of the Mind, ſo highly excel; What ſhould not true Virtue do? That Divine Thing, I mean, which holds Conjunction with God above;

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that is fortify'd with the ſplendid expectation of a bleſſed Immortality. Can, I ſay, this Champion ever give ground? Shall Virtue crouch, where even the barbarous have ſcorn'd to ſtoop? God forbid! And of Virtue, that is perfect and ſincere, let it never be ſaid! 'Tis true, there is a Nice Generation of pretenders to Virtue; ſuch as keep up a general Acquaintance, and fain would be valu'd on the ſcore of ſome Familiarity with her: But if a Storm ariſe, or any Battels are to be fought on her account, they are preſently Men of another Climate, and their trueſt Religion is about Riches, Honour, and ſenſual Delights.

XII. Now ſince we could prove by infinite Examples (if brevity were not in our Care) that 'tis not beyond the reach of a conſiderate Man, to overcome the greateſt difficulties: Let us bend our Souls to the Acquiring this true and perfect *Patience*. This is the Virtue, that ſubdues, and will enable us even to deſpiſe, as well the pleaſures of the Body, as all the ſorrows that can attend it. And let no Man fancy to himſelf, or pretend to others, that he is poſſeſs'd of any Virtue at all, till he has attain'd that *Patience*, which we here ſet forth. For as bare Virtue is a high Reward, yet Happy Immortality is one of the certain Fruits thereof; So let us retain it immoveably, and let us never imagine that we have it at all, unleſs we can hold it faſt.

XIII. Here

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XIII. Here some may contemptuously ask, Whether or no this our Philosophy be the shortest way to be Happy? And whether these Rules are the method to enrich a Man's Family, or to make him a Magistrate? And whether this celebrated Virtue and good Conscience, do not rather conduct a Man to the Faggot, or to the Gallows; even as Examples, without Number, do testifie, in all Ages, and in every Climate?

To this we must take leave to Demur, by laying open the true Nature of Virtue. Which is not a thing calculated for peculiar Places and particular Seasons; but has a general reference to all Times, and to every Place, to procure us Felicity in both. It doth also, on the other hand, enable us either to resist Evils; Or, if they prevail, to bear them with Equality, and resignation.

How far Virtue contributes to the getting of *Wealth*, *Honours*, and the like, has been already shewn. I will onely add that *Honest Poverty* is preferable to ill-gotten *Riches*: And such (I take it) are manifestly ill-gotten and ill-kept, wher-ever Virtue has suffered for it, either in the whole, or in its smaller part. Wherefore let Virtue be your Children's Inheritance; if they have this, they will never stand in need of superfluous Wealth; and if they have it not, you ought not to break your Heart to make them Rich. *L. 1. c. 1. Sect. 3. L. 3. c. 9. Sect. 2.*

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XIV. As to the Objection, For fear of Burning or the Gallows: take this for granted, that if you want the Armor of *Patience* against all Tribulations and Temptations whatever that may happen, you then carry in your Bosom that Serpent *Cowardise*, which will urge you to betray your Prince, your Country, your Friends, your Religion, and even all together, if it fairly comes in your way. Whereas if *Patience*, do but fortifie and corroborate your Mind; it will embolden you to stand in defiance against those mighty Bugbears. You may, in scorn of them, declare, that the Soul of Man is not to be scorch'd by Fire, nor choak'd by Water; nor can the Butchers chop it into parcels: That Virtue cannot, even by Violence, be torn from it, or God himself be separated from Virtue and the Soul.

XV. Besides, this also may be reflected on, that our *Life* is but as a Thing depositted with us by *God*. Now if *God* shall call for his own Pledge, How can we, with Sense or Honesty, refuse so just and potent a Benefactor, or be unwilling to restore back what he lent? But this Pledge is always called for, as often as any Conditions for Life are made us, which cannot consist with that Observance, which we owe to God and to Virtue.

XVI. Lastly, Let us take Comfort in this, That God is not usually wanting to his Children, in their Extremities; that, if the Mind shall retain its Integrity and persevere to

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to the laſt, 'tis ſcarce in the power of Torment to interrupt our Happineſs. For the Soul is then as it were abſorp'd with God, and in full proſpect of a bleſſed Immortality. She knows the Flames and Scourges of this World cannot disfigure her; For when their worſt is done, 'tis She finally ſhall Conquer; That ſhe, as a long Exile, is now ſolemnly recall'd to her Native Country: that She is remounting to the Region of bleſſed Souls; and even ſees them, as gazing upon her with joy, and as ſhouting with Acclamations at her approach.

L.2. c.10. §.18.
L.3. c.10. §.8.
L.2. c.10 §.19.
L.3. c.3. §.10.

XVII. O the Joys! O the Triumphs! O what Embraces from that Illuſtrious Aſſembly! What Words, and Welcome, and Elogies, will they beſtow, for what ſhe ſo direfully ſuffer'd, and ſo bravely overcame, in the defence of Virtue and of Truth! How will the Manſions above Eccho and Rebound, with Hallelujah's of that Heavenly Quire! Or how rather, will this victorious Soul, enter with Triumph into thoſe Manſions, where Felicity is never to end! 'Tis in this Happy Station, where Love and Friendſhip are always Young, ſtill Unblemiſh'd, and evermore Sincere. Here Holy Angels, and all thoſe Reſplendent Beings, which are above, do not onely behold the Beauties of each other, but Communicate, and even Diſcourſe, by ſome unſpeakable Way: But this is ſure, that Truth ſhines out in its utmoſt Purity, and Virtue is bright and manifeſt in all they ſay. Beſides, here

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here are no Viciſſitudes, all is Peace, all Security, and all things are Stationary and fix'd. In ſhort, here is a Conſummation of the Soul's bleſs'd Eſtate; And it were impoſſible to find it elſewhere.

XVIII. And how could this otherwiſe be, ſince the Mind of Man is as the Image of God, drawn and deſcending from him. And being drawn from God; it covets Heaven, as deſirous to return from whence it came. All Inclinations towards the Earth ſavour of the Body; But as to the Soul, her Habitation is above, and her true Country is Heaven. For as *Cicero* Diſcourſes wiſely of this Matter, *There can no Origination of the Soul be found upon Earth.* *De Conſolatione.*

XIX. Wherefore let us admire that Quickning Life; which, when freed from our Earthly Tabernable, will touch and penetrate our Souls with Joy! O that happy State of victorious Virtue, attended and ſurrounded with Triumphs and Content! And ever Happy be that Death and Torment, which ſhall conduct the firm and unſhaken Soul, to Pleaſures that are Ineffable.

XX. Here, we confeſs, are great things ſpoken; and ſo perhaps through this whole Work; Yet we ſuppoſe they are not greater, than what belongs to the true and genuine Deſcription of *Moral Philoſophy*. They are not beyond the Compaſs and Meaning of *Right Reaſon*; nor exceed the Profeſſions and Memorials of the moſt Excellent of the *Heathens*.

XXI.

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XXI. HOWEVER, That Religion may not be defrauded of her due Honour, I do here also profess, testifie, and declare, that I think nothing is found in the Writings of the Philosophers, or commemorated as the Deeds and Sayings of Renowned *Heathens*; But all their Flights and Raptures (whether about *God*, or the *Soul*, or *Virtue*) are owing, either to the very Doctrine, or to the Ancient *Cabala* or Tradition of the most Primitive Church of God; Or else to the *Eternal* Son, that *Logos*, or WORD *of God*; Who has, in all Ages past, endow'd every Man with some Sense of *Honesty*; Tho some Men have always been more *Burning*, and more *Shining Lights*, than the rest.

For this WORD is that *True Light*, which *Enlightneth all Men that come into this World*: even as the *Scripture* has it. Now that *Pythagoras* drew his Knowledg from the *Hebrew* Fountains, is what all Writers, Sacred and Prophane, do testifie and aver. That *Plato* took from him the principal part of that Knowledg, touching *God*, the *Soul's Immortality*, and *the Conduct of Life and Good Manners*, has been doubted by no Man. And that it went from him, into the Schools of *Aristotle*, and so deriv'd and diffus'd, almost into the whole World, is in like manner attested by all.

XXII. WHEREFORE, as the Virtue, and Wisdom, and Excellency, of so many of the Old *Heathens*, does not a little Illustrate the Power

Power and Benignity of the Divine Providence, and the extent of its Gifts: So can these Men, in no degree, either obscure, or derogate from, the Glory of the *Church*. For they, as we said, did but borrow their precious Things, either from the *Church* of God, or from the *Divine Logos* or *WORD*. That *Word* which the old Church (I mean that of the *Jews*) did worship when it shined from the Tabernacle: and which the New Church (I mean that of the *Christians*) still adores in the Human Nature of the *Messias*, as in the glorious Temple of its Residence. *And may it be Worshipped and Adored for ever and ever.* Amen.

FINIS.

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CEDRIC CHIVERS. BATH.

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